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MACFORMAT

ISSUE 30 ■ NOVEMBER 1995 ■ £3.99 WITH HD DISK
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The face of digital media

Publishing on the Internet and CD-ROM – what it means, how it works, and how you can do it yourself

For more disk details see the back cover

Take control!

Trackballs, touch pads, touch-screens – better than mice?

DIY video editing

Create your own Mac movies, complete with special effects

PLUS Win a £1,000 H-P laser printer ■ Art on CD-ROM ■ The drawing program that 'paints' too ■ Lawnmower Man

Future PUBLISHING
YOUR GUARANTEE OF VALUE
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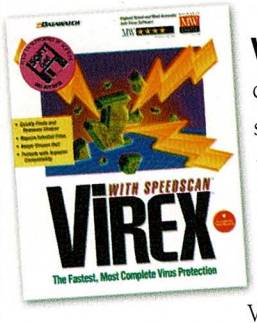
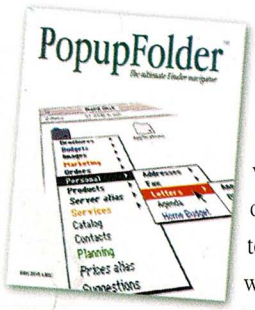
If your HD Disk is missing, ask your newsagent

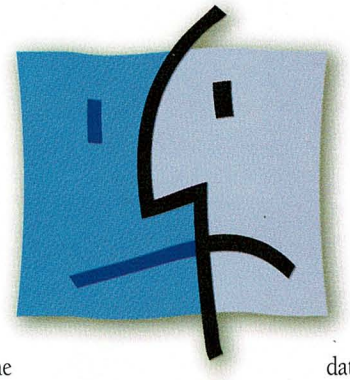
Sad Mac Problem?

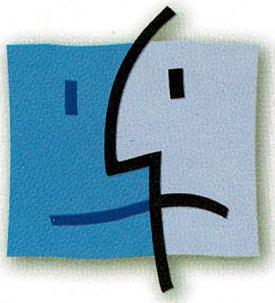


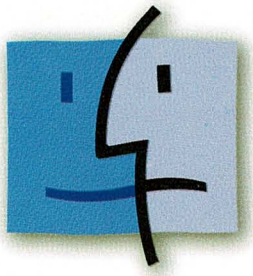
Virex is the first comprehensive solution to the threat of Macintosh computer viruses. Not only does Virex tell you when there is a virus present, it will define and repair all files containing a known virus. It can also detect new or previously unknown viruses. Virex 5 offers the fastest and most secure virus protection available today and you can also take advantage of the Annual Subscription Service to ensure your Mac stays clean and healthy. Macworld Magazine awarded Virex the Editors' choice because Virex is the fastest and most accurate anti-virus software.
SRP £74.99 with years subscription **£149.00**

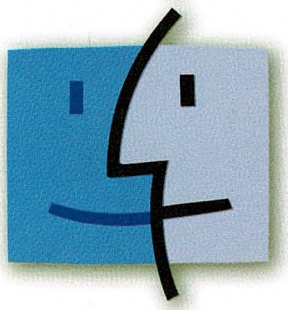


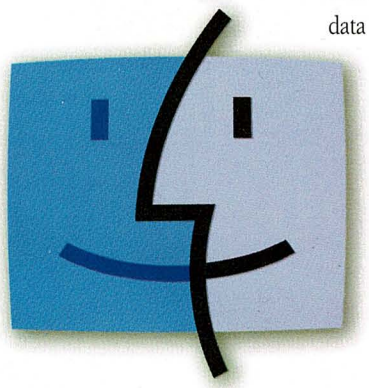
Popup Folder 2 If you're a Mac user then you'll be familiar with double-clicking on folder upon folder to slowly work your way around the Finder. When you click and hold down with Popup installed each folder and drive (even server volumes) sprouts a little pop up menu which shows all the files and sub-folders within it, instantly. Using the menu you can select one of the folders within and see even further—up to 16 levels deep. You can even drag and drop files from and onto these submenus! Popup Folder also adds hierarchical menus to your apple menu and popup access from the open and save dialogue boxes. It's the ultimate finder navigator that no Mac should be without! **SRP £39.00**

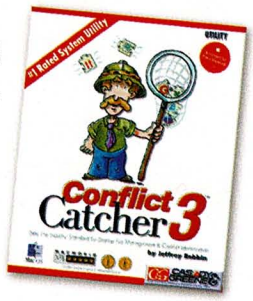




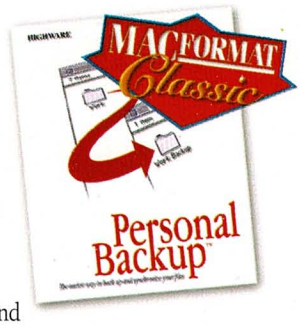








Conflict Catcher 3 allows you to locate single and multiple conflicts between start up files through a series of tests. It actually finds problems with your system and does not rely on a limited database that constantly needs updating. Conflict Catcher 3 will log the results of a conflict test to a text file for future examination. It also offers practical management for start up software—extensions, control panels etc.,. It can passively enable and disable start up files without modifying them. Conflict Catcher also includes special tools for PowerBook users including allowing aliases of startup files to be loaded to a startup RAM disc which saves memory and battery life. **SRP £69.00**



Personal Backup eliminates excuses and offers hassle free backup at an extraordinary value. Set up your own Backup routine once from the compact control panel and you'll never have to worry about loss of data after accidental deletions, hard disk failures or other annoying situations. Personal Backup will automatically save your data to any HFS volume such as hard discs, opticals, syquests or even floppy discs. You can create scripts to automate the backup or set it to run at Shut Down or another predefined time. Personal Backup also includes File Synchronisation and a Keystroke Recorder to help safeguard your work.
SRP £39.00

Four Steps To Mac Happiness

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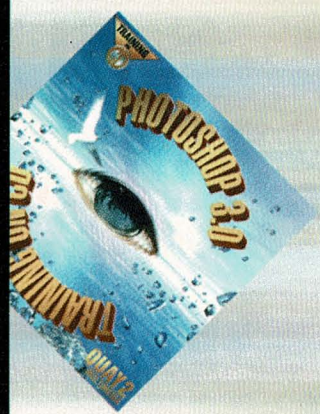
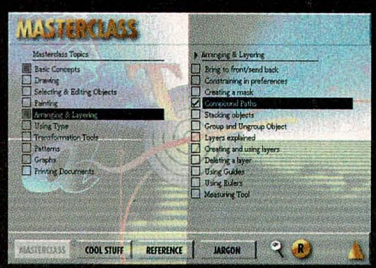


MACFORMAT Classic

'Well thought out and dead easy to use. Excellent in-depth coverage of every aspect. Well worth buying, it'll pay for itself in a matter of days' 94% (Xpress CD)

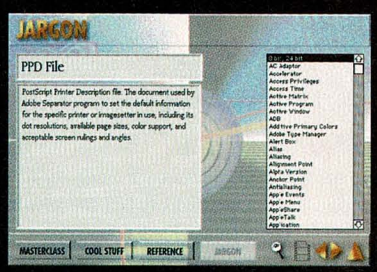
These outstanding training CDs each contain over 6 hours of intensive tuition in the form of screen movies with an experienced instructor talking you through each step. In addition, there is a complete reference guide to menus and dialog boxes, with hints and tips on how best to use your application.

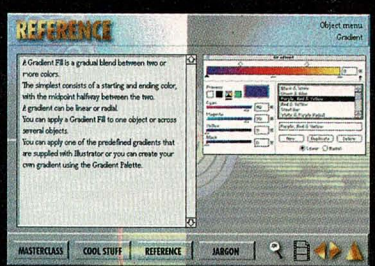
Each of the CDs cover a single application and are broken down into easy to use sections:



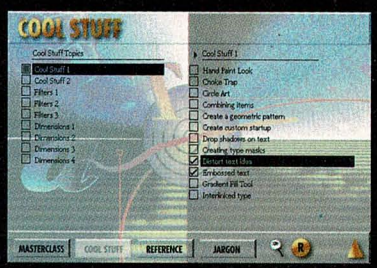
Master Classes This is the core part of the training course, taking you through from basics to advanced use of your application. Screen recordings of the instructor talking you through the application teach you how to master your program, quickly and efficiently. Stop, start, advance and rewind the movies as you need, so that you can learn at your own pace.

Jargon Full glossary of technical words and phrases.





Reference Easy access to a full explanation of menus, shortcuts and other useful information.



Cool Stuff (on selected titles) Exercises, hints and tips are passed on from experience gained from years of using the application, giving you a unique insight into your application.

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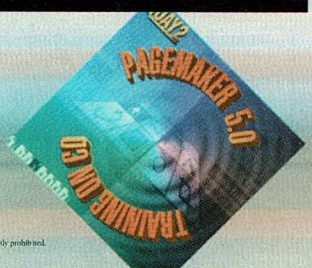

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MACFORMAT

ISSUE 30 ■ NOVEMBER 1995

The Finder

REVIEWS A-Z

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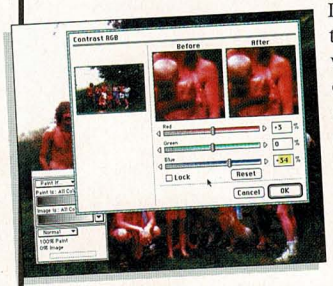
Touch up your scans 64

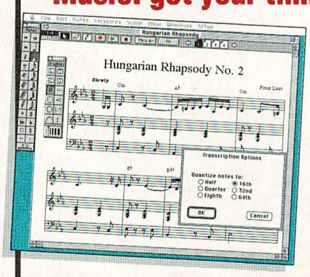


It's impossible to take the perfect photo, but with our tutorial series on image editing you can reach perfection, even without using high-end software.

Databases and field types 67

Databases don't hold just text, but numbers, times, dates and more. Here's a guide to all the field types.

Music: get your timing right 72



Timing can make or break a piece of music. We show you how to use quantisation, and how not to...

HyperCard: flexible data handling 76

Apple's all-purpose *HyperCard* can do more than a dedicated database program – we show you how.

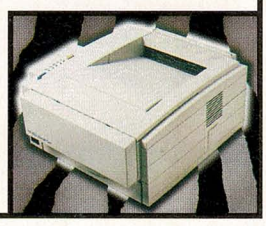
Mac Answers 79

You have problems with your Mac. We solve them. This month we look at printer problems, damaged fonts, transferring from other formats, and more.

WIN! WIN! WIN!

Performa 5300 63

Create your own Web magazine using the software on our CD and our tutorial, and you could win a £2,300 Mac!



Hewlett-Packard LaserJet 5MP 146

Our top-rated mono laser printer is worth £1,000 and we have one to give away!

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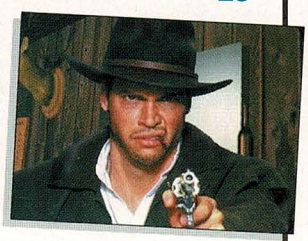
Check out MACFORMAT on the World Wide Web.

News 23

Parts drought delays Mac compatibles; Apple vow to get more software on the high street; hybrid PowerPC/Pentium chip planned; all the latest at Britain's biggest leisure computing show.



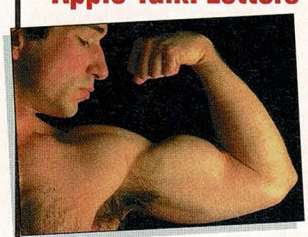
What's New? 28

A new version of *WordPerfect*, a new set of *Quark* XTensions and a way to *Mind Your Own Business*...

MacroScope 33

Design95, the competition that invites universities to imagine the future of computing.

Apple Talk: Letters 40



What you'd like to see in MACFORMAT... and what you didn't like at all. Keep 'em coming.

Special Reader Offers 122

We hunt out some great bargains for you.

Back Issues 125

Missed a great feature? Do not fear, order it here.

Free Reader Ads 138

Hunt out some second-hand bargains.

Talking Point: March to PC 140

After one reader claimed the PC was tops, and after all the recent Windows 95 hype, MACFORMAT readers fight back!

Buying Advice 144

Read this before you spend.

Classic System Crew 144

The cartoon that gives you the view from the other side of the screen.

Next Issue 145

Speed up your Mac, round-ups and reviews galore, and a full paint package on the Disk – next issue!

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Alternatives to the mouse. What do they offer? Do they even work?

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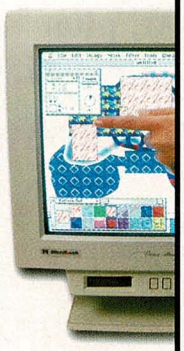

SmartSketch 90
An innovative, easy-to-use drawing program that can 'paint' as well!

Clip art 94
Clip art can brighten up your printouts (and everyone else's day).

Multimedia: Art galleries 97
CDs that do more than just display marvellous art.

A Passion for Art 97
A Stroll in 20th Century Art 98
Le Louvre 99

Multimedia: Edutainment 100
Science made easy and talking books for the kids.

Widget Workshop 100
If You Give a Mouse a Cookie 101
George Shrinks 102

World Cup Soccer 104
All the World Cup facts from 1930 to 1994. Punch the air.

Corel All-Movie Guide 105
It contains a ludicrously large number of reviews, but are they any good?

Shareware Heaven 117
We trawl the Net to bring you the best low-cost and no-cost software.

Game Reviews
Classic games galore – adventures, puzzles, gore, and even a creative kiddies' game.

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SimTown 128
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Marathon CD 132
Star Trek 25th Anniversary CD 132
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Utilities: Quick'n'Easy 136
A utility that makes the Mac's folder and file system even simpler.

Disk Cleaner 136
What do you mean, you've never cleaned your hard disk?

Cyberwar
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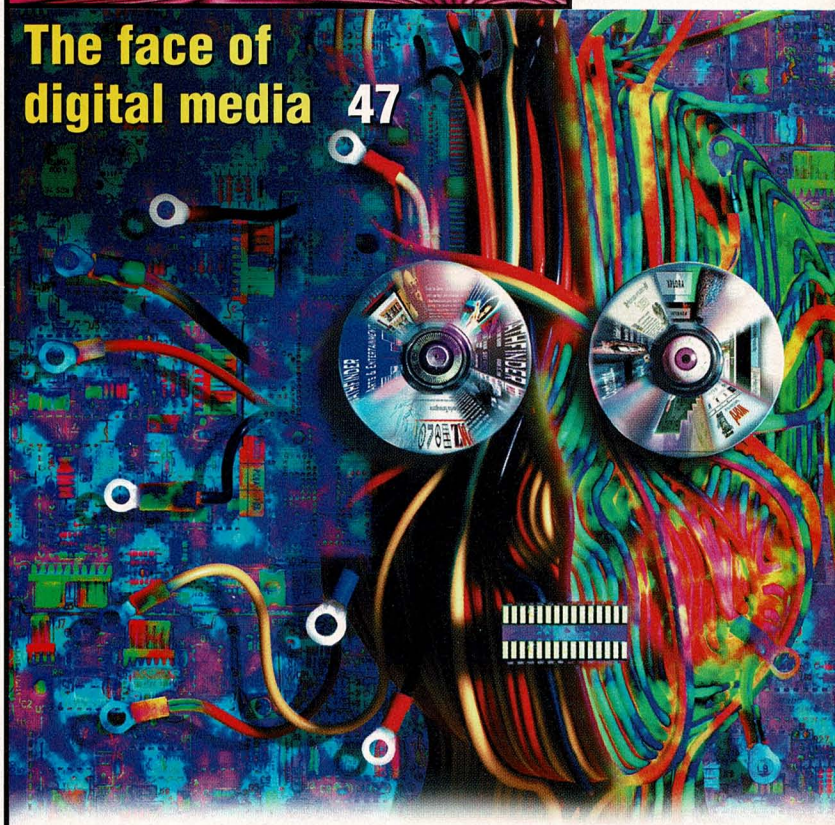


The face of digital media 47

Paper is passé – publishing is moving to digital media like CD-ROM, the Internet and your Mac screen. We explain what's happening, review software that creates digital documents and Web pages, and show you how to do it yourself, step by step.

Acrobat 2.0 and Common Ground 1.1 54
HTML authoring software 57
Create your own Web page 60

DIY video editing 109
The Mac's QuickTime video playback system is evolving fast, with new utilities to help you create QT movies, edit them and add special effects. We explore how it works and test the latest, including *Multimedia Utilities*, *MediaPaint*, and more.

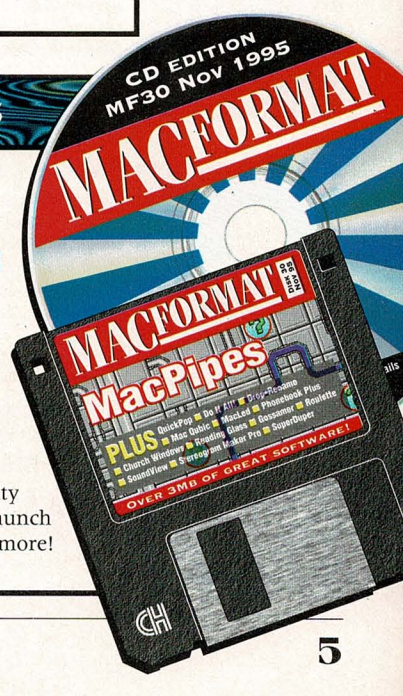
Help! There's a giant mutant aardvark loose in my back garden!
See page 98

COVER DISKS

MACFORMAT comes with a choice of CD-ROM or high-density disk every month:

Your CD-ROM 8
HTML software (all you need to create your own Web mag!), QuickTime 2.1, *QuickEditor*, a *SmartSketch* demo, *QuarkXPress* templates, 45 colour clip photos, shareware, and everything below...

Your Cover Disk 14
Addictive games, an amazing virtual reality viewer, a personal organiser, utilities to launch items instantly, customise windows, and more!



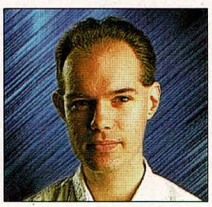
Welcome to MACFORMAT

Everything you wanted to know about MACFORMAT, plus a glimpse into our most intimate dreams (um, almost).

ABOUT OUR WRITERS

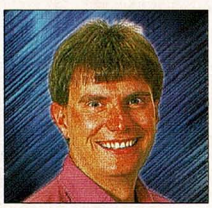
ALEX SUMMERSBY

Alex learned everything he knows about Macs by using them, so he also had plenty of time to read up on them while waiting for things to happen. His dream Mac would be one on which you didn't have to watch that little wristwatch...



RICHARD HILL

Our News Editor and multimedia man cut his computing teeth on a UK101 from Compukit (whatever that was), and now owns an Atari ST *and* a SNES. His dream Mac, he says, would be 'affordable'. Relative to a UK101, of course.



COLIN DALZIEL

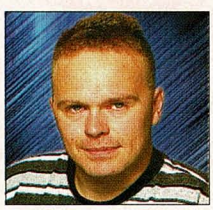
New Disc Editor Colin has a degree in Electronic Imaging and Media Communications, no less. His dream Mac 'would never crash and would have a super duper big monitor and lovely speakers 'n' everything.' Very technical, is our Colin.

DEREK SMITH

Our technical expert has now joined Future Publishing's Mac Services department and has been installing new Mac 7200s and 7500s – or trying to. Buggy as ant-hills, it seems. His dream Mac just now is anything that *isn't* a 7200 or 7500.

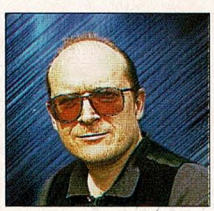
ROD LAWTON

Rod has been testing alternative input devices this month. He says his dream Mac is one with a pressure pad or something that turns it on when you walk in the front door, so it's finished starting up when you get to it ten minutes later.



MARCUS DYSON

Marcus heads the multimedia division of a top software house, and they just happen to have bought him his dream Mac, a 9500, when he asked for it last week. (We're sure he's just saying that to wind us up. Bet it's only an 8500.)



BRIAN LARKMAN

Our art expert teaches computer graphics at a college using high-spec Macs with tons of RAM and dozens of powerful Extensions. His dream Mac would be one that didn't take 25 minutes to load the latter and fill up most of the former.

ABOUT MACFORMAT

Welcome again to MACFORMAT, Britain's best-selling Mac magazine! Whether you're a veteran or a novice, we'll help you get more out of your Macintosh, whatever you use it for.

Every month, MACFORMAT brings you tips, techniques and tutorials covering the range of Mac applications, from graphics, spreadsheets and databases to music, multimedia and games. This month we show you how to create your own World Wide Web pages, master a database, quantise and more.

We'll bring you features about exciting Mac developments and novel uses, accompanied by Cover Disk programs whenever possible, so you can discover what your machine can do and try things you mightn't have tried before – perhaps even win a gorgeous Performa 5300 by trying your hand at the Web.

We'll keep you up-to-date with all the Mac-related news, and also keep you informed about the wider issues, the people behind the headlines and the stories behind the stories. This issue, we glimpse some designs that could shape the Mac of the future.

We'll bring you authoritative reviews of interesting and affordable products, with clear buying recommendations. This issue we test a range of unusual input/control devices, a novel drawing/paint program, QuickTime movie software, and much much more.

MACFORMAT's covermounted Disks and CD-ROMs offer you demos so you can try software before you buy, useful utilities (specially chosen to complement features in the magazine – all the HTML software you need this issue), selected shareware programs, games, readers' contributions and more. This issue's details start on page 8.

Editorial enquiries:
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ABOUT OUR REVIEWS

Every MACFORMAT review is designed to inform you in detail of what you'd be getting if you bought the product and help you decide whether it's worth your money. It tells you the essentials, without jargon.

MACFORMAT *does not review demos or unfinished programs.* We review only the finished products you could buy yourself, to help you decide whether to buy or not. We give clear buying recommendations, and rate products on this scale:

- 80+% means excellent.
- 70+% means well worthwhile, though not really outstanding.
- 60+% means good, but with a few shortcomings or some limitations.
- 50+% means acceptable but flawed.
- A rating below 50% means you should think carefully before parting with your money.

The MACFORMAT Classic Award

If a product earns a rating of 90% or more, we'll give it a MACFORMAT Classic Award. This means what it says: we judge the product to be a classic, a standard-setter of its type, something really special.

- We make every effort to verify all the information we publish, but products and prices do change. We always quote list prices (RRPs), but street prices do vary. Shop around, and check with the supplier before buying to make sure that the product you're considering will meet your needs. MACFORMAT cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions or for any losses that may arise as a result, but it is our policy to correct any errors of fact whenever we possibly can.
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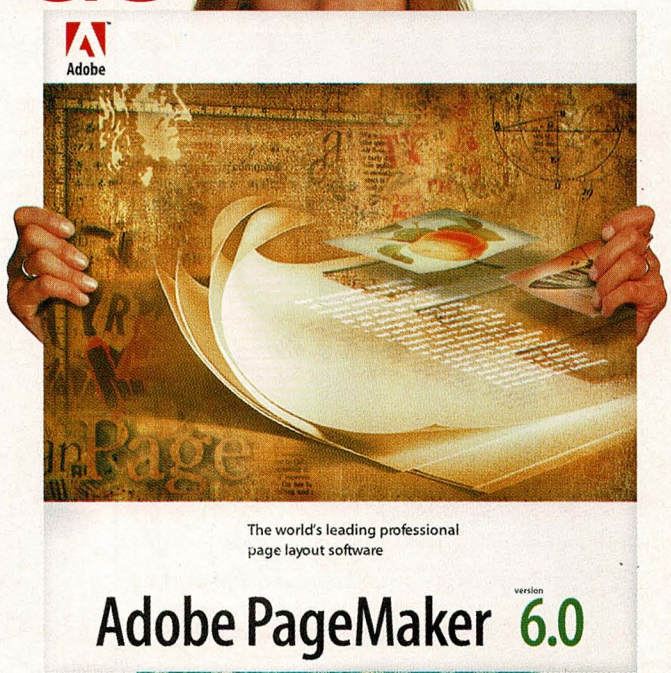

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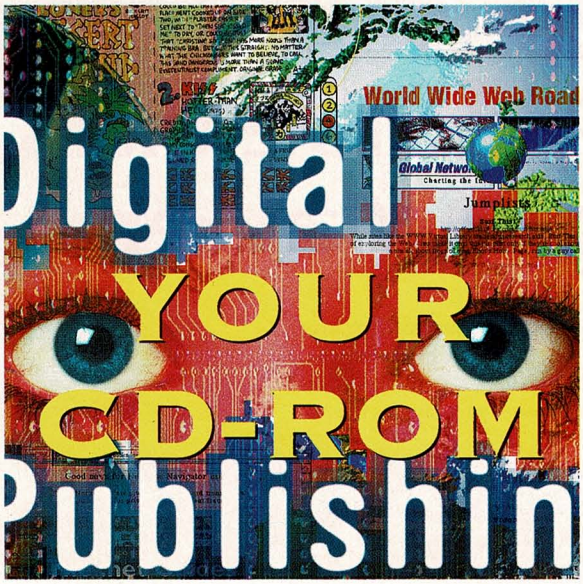


This month's CD is filled with so much stuff we needed a crowbar to get it all in! New boy Colin Dalziel reveals what's in store.

There's a great variety of software this month: software for producing and editing your own Web pages, demos of great drawing packages, more of the best in clip photos and tons of the latest shareware... and more.

- **HTML Software:** everything you need to create your own Web pages.
- **Clip Photos:** 45 full colour high resolution images from the best collections money can buy.
- **Demos:** interactive and rolling demos of software reviewed in this issue of MACFORMAT.
- **Floppy:** all of the software that's featured on the floppy disk.
- **Mastering *XPress:*** *QuarkXPress* tutorials and templates – see page 95.
- **QuickTime:** the latest version – 2.1 – together with the *QuickEditor* video editing package, and demo movies.
- **Readers' Corner:** your section, containing programs and artwork.
- **Resources:** software to help you get the most out of your Mac.
- **Shareware City:** the best shareware and freeware from the Internet.
- **Shareware in MACFORMAT:** all the shareware reviewed in this issue (reviews start on page 117).

FLOPPY OR CD?

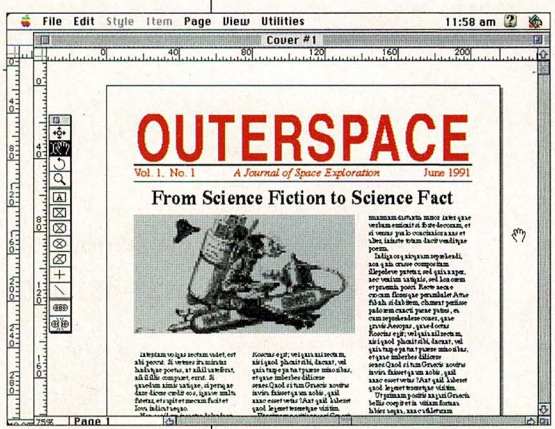
MACFORMAT is available in two editions every month: one with a CD-ROM and one with a high-density floppy disk. The CD contains all the software on the floppy disk in a folder called Floppy. See page 14 for details.

Mastering XPress

Tutorials and templates

Requires: *QuarkXPress 3.0*

To follow our DTP feature in MACFORMAT 29, we bring you a selection of templates and tutorials, which you can use with *QuarkXPress*. This selection goes with the excellent tutorial book *Mastering QuarkXPress 3*, which you can order for the bargain price of £4.95 by turning to page 95. The template disk normally costs £9.95, but we're giving it to you for nothing!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Vol. 1, No. 1 A Journal of Space Exploration June 1991
From Science Fiction to Science Fact
Page 1

With the templates we give you, your pages won't look out of place on the newsstands!

For work or play we've included a wide range of templates for you to customise.

MACFORMAT 30

634.9 MB in disk

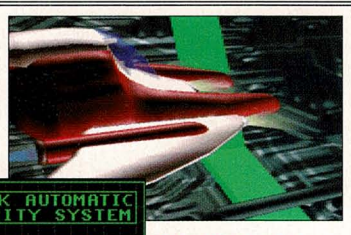
Over 6,000 files of photos, clip art, shareware, demos and much, much more

Cyberwar

Game demo

Requires: colour Mac

We bring you both a rolling demo of *Cyberwar* and a playable demo that gives you the chance to try out the game for yourself. Can you solve those puzzles in time? For the full review of *Cyberwar and The Lawnmower Man*, turn to page 130.



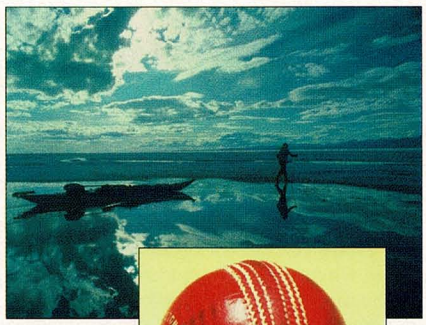
The rolling demo of *Cyberwar* has you flying at speed through tunnels in your luxurious craft (above). You play the role of Dr Angelo (left).

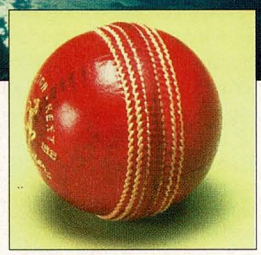
Clip Photos

Samples

Requires: colour Mac, *Graphic Converter* (also on the CD) or similar

Another 45 high resolution full colour photos from three of the top photo libraries around: Corel, Andromeda Interactive and Quadra.





From the beach and garden to the sports field, another great selection of top quality clip photos to add to your growing collection. Brighten up your work!

QuickTime 2.1

Extension and sample movies

Requires: System 6.0.7 or later

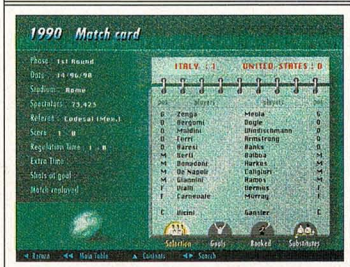
As well as the latest version of QuickTime, we also include three sample QuickTime movies: *CameraMan* and *Instant Replay,* each of which was made using its eponymous screen recording program, and *CheapSpace5,* which shows what kind of special effects you can achieve using *MediaPaint.* For more about QuickTime and the latest movie software, turn to the feature on page 109.

Zap! Pow! Crash! *CheapSpace5* shows off some of the special effects that are made possible by QuickTime movie software.

Multimedia

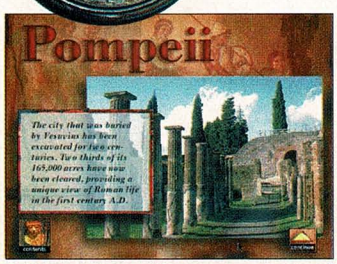
Multimedia demos

Requires: colour Mac



Football crazy? This rolling demo shows you what's in store in *World Cup Soccer.*

100 Years of Motoring takes you back to the days before the M25 was a car park.



Save a fortune on air fares and guided tours by looking at ancient cities of the world from the comfort of your own Mac.

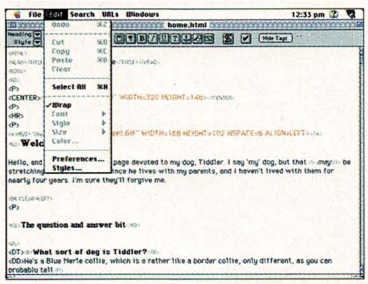
Following the reviews in MACFORMAT 29 we are delighted to bring you demo versions of the motoring enthusiast's dream CD-ROM *100 Years of Motoring* and the time travel enthusiast's dream CD *Exploring Ancient Cities.* Meanwhile, for the sportsman we have *World Cup Soccer,* a rolling demo of the history and statistics of World Cup football from 1933 to 1994 – the review of this footie CD extravaganza is on page 104.

HTML authoring software

Various

Requires: see individual Read Me files

The World Wide Web gives you an easy friendly interface to the world of electronic publishing. Our Digital Publishing feature on page 47 shows how to create your own Web page or magazine, and to go with it we bring you this comprehensive collection of Web software, including tutorials, shareware editors, demos of commercial editors, macros for popular word processors, and demonstrations. Create your own Web magazine, and you could win a Performa 5300! See page 63 for more details.



VIRUS? SURELY NOT!

Don't worry if your virus checker gives you a warning about the CD. If you get an alert about an 'unknown strain of WDEF and CDEF', it's not a virus – it's just that we use an unusual Desktop file to ensure that the disk works with both Systems 6 and 7.

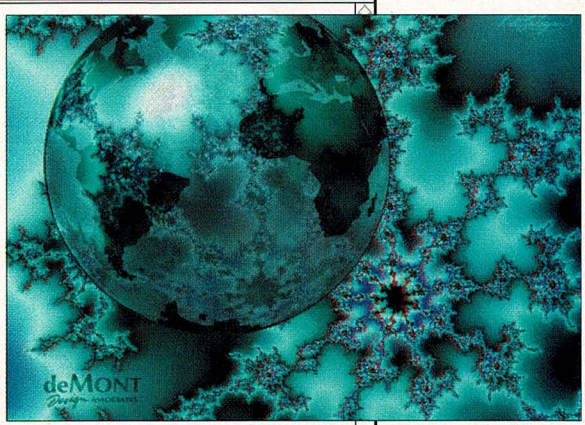
Readers' Corner

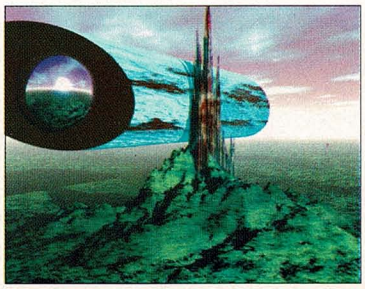
Your contributions

Requires: see individual Read Me files

One of the joys of working at MACFORMAT is seeing how creative our readers are. Keep those disks coming in to: Disk Editor, MACFORMAT, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath, Avon BA1 2BW.

This month's art gallery prize, a copy of *Home Repair,* goes to Alan Wild for his excellent artwork, which you can see on the back cover of the CD. If you'd like your artwork featured on the cover, please make sure the resolution is at least 1,000 x 800 pixels. Next month we are giving away five copies of *Iron Helix* for the best contributions, so get those images to us now!





Images from distant planets keep landing here, in the form of fine artwork from our readers.

CUSTOM ICONS

The icons we use on the CD help to give it a friendly atmosphere, but they do slow it down. Install *CDIcon-Killer,* which is in the Resources folder on the CD, if you want to speed things up.

QuickEditor

If you never fulfilled your longing to be a film director, you can start now by creating your own QuickTime movie, then perfect it using our demo of *QuickEditor*.

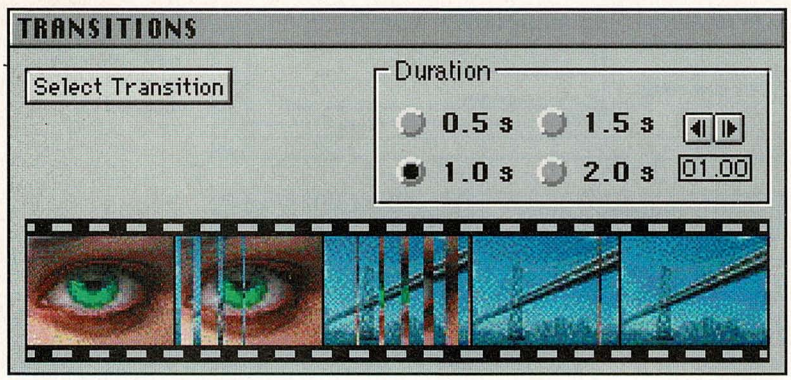
If you're into making your own QuickTime movies, *QuickEditor* is ideal for perfecting the finished article. You can make cuts and add clips from one movie to another, add visual effects and record or load soundtracks and sound effects.

This easy to use, powerful QuickTime movie editor is on the cover CD in a shareware version – it's fully featured, but when you use any transitions the movie will be marked with a white cross. To eliminate this, all you have to do is pay a paltry $20 to register your copy, and you'll be provided with the necessary code.

There's an in-depth review of *QuickEditor* on page 112. Meanwhile, here's a guide to using *QuickEditor*, but if you still get stuck, an on-line manual is included with the program.

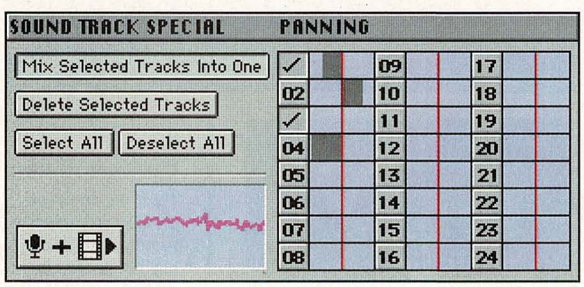
Clip panel: to add clips of other QuickTime videos to your movie, just load a clip into this window from the menu or click on the first button on the Video Control panel, then set the Start and End points to select the part of the video you want to add to your movie. If you want to add an end card or title, you can simply load a PICT as a clip from the menu and give it a set duration.

If you have difficulty getting *QuickEditor* to function, you probably haven't set your Start and End points correctly – you have to click on **Start** or **End** to designate the frames you want to use. Clicking on **Clear** cancels the current markings and the **Play** button runs the currently selected section.



Transition panel: here you can determine what fades and wipes will be applied to your edits. If you don't select any, *QuickEditor* makes a straight scene-to-scene cut, but if you select the appropriate transition, you can use any one of many different wipes and fades. You can set the time for each transition using the buttons for handy half second intervals, or the arrows for more accurate, frame-perfect transitions.

A transition *ends* at the selected frame, so if you decide on a two second transition, it starts two seconds before the frame you have selected – you'll get used to this after a while. You can also set the transition to occur *after* the selected frame by using the **Edit/Preferences/Technical Settings** menu.

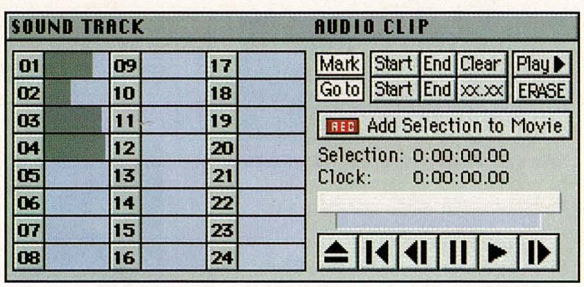


Sound Tracks Special panel: this is an additional tool that you can use for mixing your movie soundtrack. When a sound is present in the numbered soundtrack windows of the Sound Track panel, it will also be present in the same window of the Sound Tracks Special panel. By using the sliders, you can pan the sound to either of the stereo speakers, or, by leaving it in the centre position, you can centre the sound in the stereo image. You can only use a certain number of soundtracks. If you reach the limit, either make two or more soundtracks into one track, or delete the tracks you don't need.

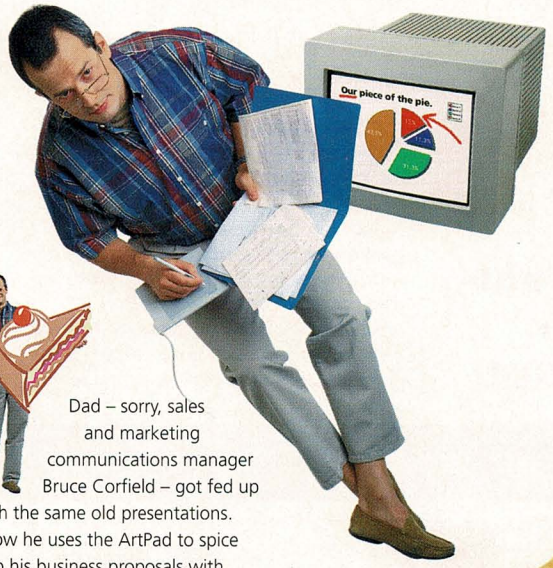
Movie panel: this window is where the movie you are working on resides. To avoid mixing up your movie versions, select **Save As** as soon as you start editing. The Movie panel window works in just the same manner as the Clip window, but the Start point determines where the clip will be inserted, while the Start and End points are used together to select which portion of the movie has any effect applied to it (see the Video Effects window).

You can also remove sections from your movie by choosing a Start and End point and clicking on the Erase button. Make sure you select the part you want to lose, not the part you want to keep.

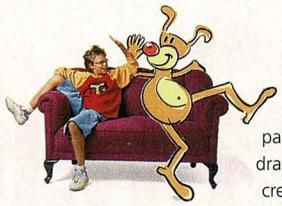
Video Effects panel: you can add digital effects to your movie at any stage, but it's probably best to finish all your clip editing first. To apply effects to your movie, first select a section of the video by clicking on the Start and End points on the Movie panel, then click on REC. The window provides a preview of how the effect you've chosen will look.



Audio Clip panel: use this section to load or record sounds you want to add to your movie. Initially, it isn't as easy to use as the other functions in *QuickEditor*, but you will soon find that it's an excellent facility. You can load sounds from disk or record them onto your Mac with a microphone. When a sound has been recorded or loaded, it does not appear in the numbered soundtrack area until you've added it to your movie. To do this, you must place Start and End points on the sample, and a Start point on the movie. Click on **REC** and the sound appears in the numbered list. You can then retrieve it by clicking on one of the numbered buttons. The little slide panel next to the button represents the relative volume of the sample.



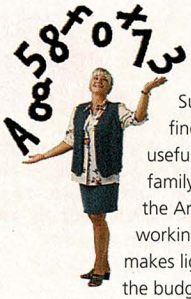
Dad – sorry, sales and marketing communications manager Bruce Corfield – got fed up with the same old presentations. Now he uses the ArtPad to spice up his business proposals with hand drawn illustrations, making points much more memorably and effectively than any hackneyed clip art could (and retouching family photos is great fun too!).



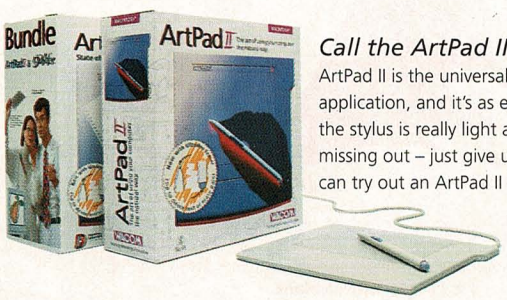
You name a comic and Jon'll tell you who did the illustration. It's his passion – especially since he started drawing his own. With the ArtPad he's creating characters, dialogue – entire stories. His friends think they're well wicked. His teachers? Well, so long as he doesn't bring them into class...

The new ArtPad II draws the family together.

Anna's solved her biggest problem – what to give her string of boyfriends for their birthdays. She designs way-out T-shirts on her ArtPad especially for them, and gets them printed down at the instant printers. It's excellent for writing love letters on, too – especially when words aren't enough.



Supermum, alias Patsy, finds spreadsheets really useful for keeping track of family finances – she loves the ArtPad's natural way of working. The cordless stylus makes light work of balancing the budget. Not to mention putting together the shopping list – typing is so boring!



Call the ArtPad II InfoLine: 0181 200 8282

ArtPad II is the universal input tool for every computer. It works with every major application, and it's as easy to use as paper, pencils and an eraser. It's batteryless, the stylus is really light and the tip is pressure sensitive. Make sure your family's not missing out – just give us a call and we'll send you details and tell you where you can try out an ArtPad II for yourself.

ArtPad II – it's the two-way family favourite.

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Putting technology in its place

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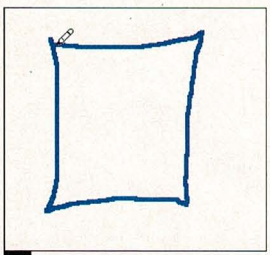
SmartSketch

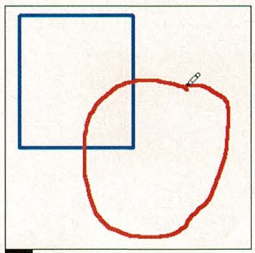
Follow our step-by-step guide to getting started with this special new drawing program. There's a fully working, time-limited demo on MACFORMAT's CD-ROM.

SmartSketch is a versatile and easy to use new drawing program. The demo on the Cover CD-ROM runs for 30 days from the first time you load it, so you've got plenty of time to try it out. Below is a step-by-step guide to demonstrate just how intuitive *SmartSketch* is, but if you want to find out more about it before you try it for yourself, read the review on page 90.

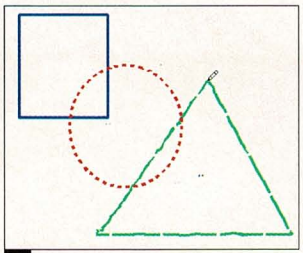
VECTOR GRAPHICS, BITMAP STYLE



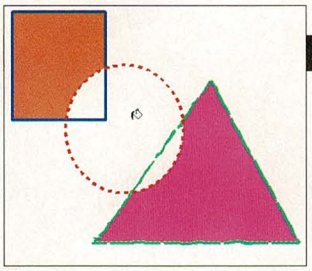
1 Select the Pencil tool and choose the **Straighten** option (the button with the staircase symbol). Choose a thicker line weight, perhaps 4pt, and give it some colour. Then just draw a rough approximation of a square.



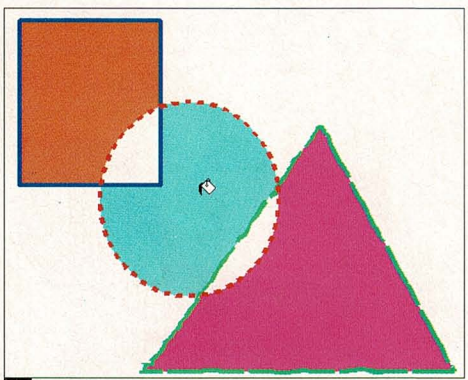
2 As soon as you lift your finger off the mouse button, the Straighten Assistant constrains your handiwork into a rectangular object with straight sides. Now try a circle with a different line style and colour.



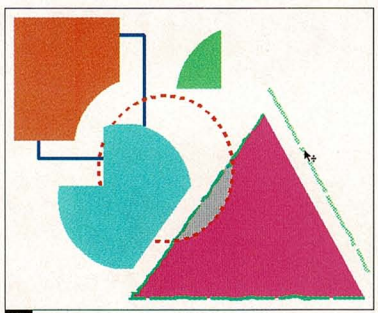
3 The tomato shape you scribbled will have become a circle or an oval shape. Do the same again, but try drawing a triangle in a different colour and using one of the special frayed-edge line styles.



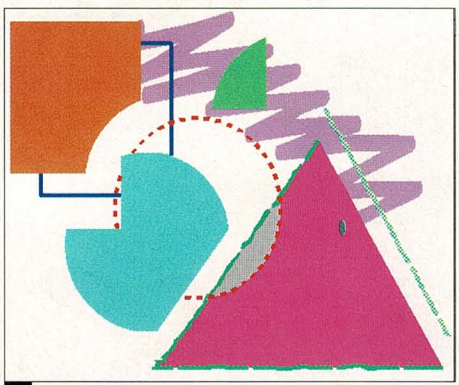
4 Now use the Paint Bucket tool to fill in the shapes with new colours. Note how the fill areas are defined by the actual enclosed areas where the shape outlines overlap, whereas any other vector graphic program would fill the entire object.



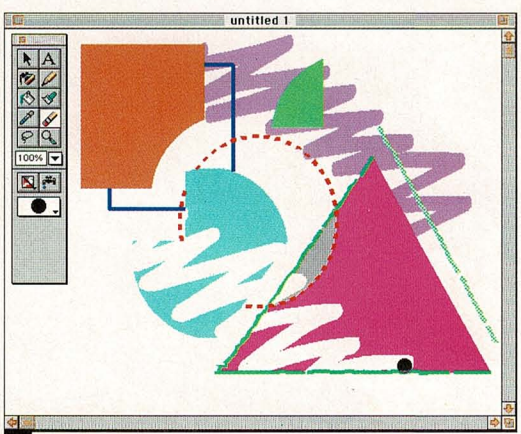
5 Although the Bucket seems to work like any bucket tool you'd find in a bitmap paint package, you can see that the object shapes you drew still retain their theoretical outlines despite their visual style. This is why the blue fill isn't extending beyond the boundaries of the circle, even though the dashed outline is full of gaps.



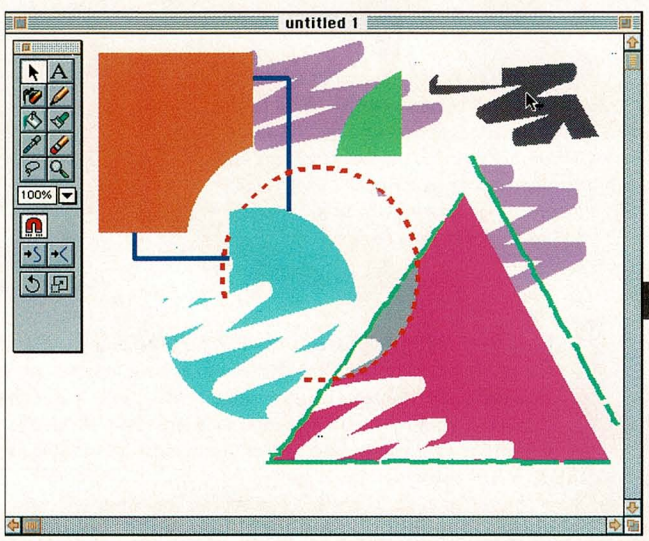
6 The shapes and fills you have created now exist as separate entities. To prove it, click on any line or fill and drag it to one side. Everything remains fully editable in terms of colour, weight, style and shape.



7 Click on the Paint tool and select a different colour. Also click on the Brush Mode button below and drag to Paint Behind. Instead of having to fuss with layers, you can paint directly behind all other objects, with the colour showing through any gaps. As you paint, it will appear that you are plastering over the top, but as soon as you release the mouse button your strokes jump to the back.



8 Select the Eraser tool, then click on the Erase Mode button below, choosing Erase Fills. Use the Eraser as you would in a bitmap paint package. Because you have specified Erase Fills, you can sweep freely with the tool in the knowledge that no outlines will be touched, only coloured areas inside them.



9 This is looking a bit of a mess now, but try one last trick. Having painted some brush strokes and erased other areas, the new shapes created by your actions have also become separate editable objects. Prove this for yourself by clicking on a portion of your brush strokes and dragging it away or changing its shape. Now try a few of your own creations.

Do you need some vital information to complete an important document?

Do you need technical advice, because your Mac has developed a curious allergy?

Or do you just want a demo of the latest and greatest Mac game?

Welcome to eWorld.

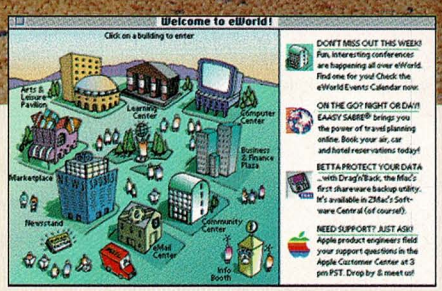
The on-line service from Apple.

Life today? A bit of a juggling act. There's work, family, finances, friends (remember them?) and so much more.

Now, there's a new and simple way to keep your busy life organised thanks to eWorld.™

With eWorld at your fingertips, you have the electronic world in the palm of your hand – an on-line service from Apple and easy access to the Internet and World Wide Web.

You can help your children do their homework, with on-line resources like Grolier's Encyclopaedia. You can get the scoop on world news as it breaks, read the latest film reviews and of course – catch up on the sports results.


Welcome to eWorld!
Click on a building to enter
Arts & Leisure Pavilion
Learning Center
Computer Center
Business & Finance Plaza
Marketplace
Newsstand
Community Center
eMail Center
Info Booth
DON'T MISS OUT THIS WEEK!
Fun, interesting conferences are happening all over eWorld. Find one for you! Check the eWorld Events Calendar now.
ON THE GO? NIGHT OR DAY!
EASY SABRE® brings you the power of travel planning online. Book your air, car and hotel reservations today!
BETTA PROTECT YOUR DATA
...with Drag'n'Back, the Mac's first shareware backup utility. It's available in 2Mac's Software Central (of course!).
NEED SUPPORT? JUST ASK!
Apple product engineers field your support questions in the Apple Customer Center at 3 pm PST. Drop by & meet us!

eWorld gets you connected too. You can send messages and files to anyone else using the service and beyond – because eWorld also provides eMail access to your friends and colleagues on the Internet.

eWorld also opens the door to a world of on-line support from Apple and a host of other companies. Technical advice, software demos, shareware – it's all there waiting for you.

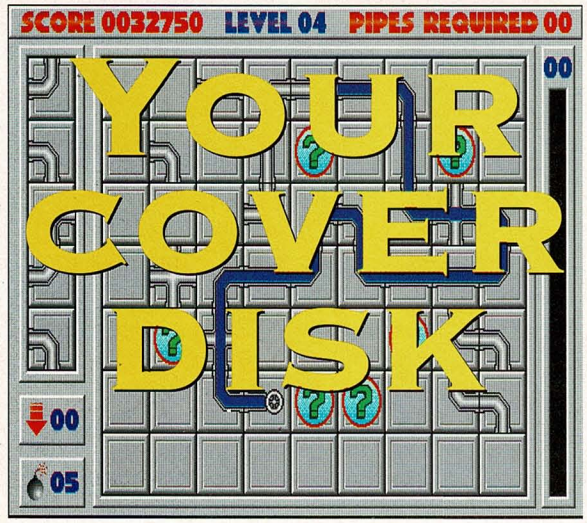
Just like your Macintosh,™ eWorld is incredibly easy-to-use. To access information, you enter buildings in the bustling eWorld Town Square, from the Arts & Leisure Pavilion to the Computer Centre, you simply point and click – what could be easier?

Best of all, you can now get your own free eWorld Starter Kit, together with two free hours of introductory connection time.

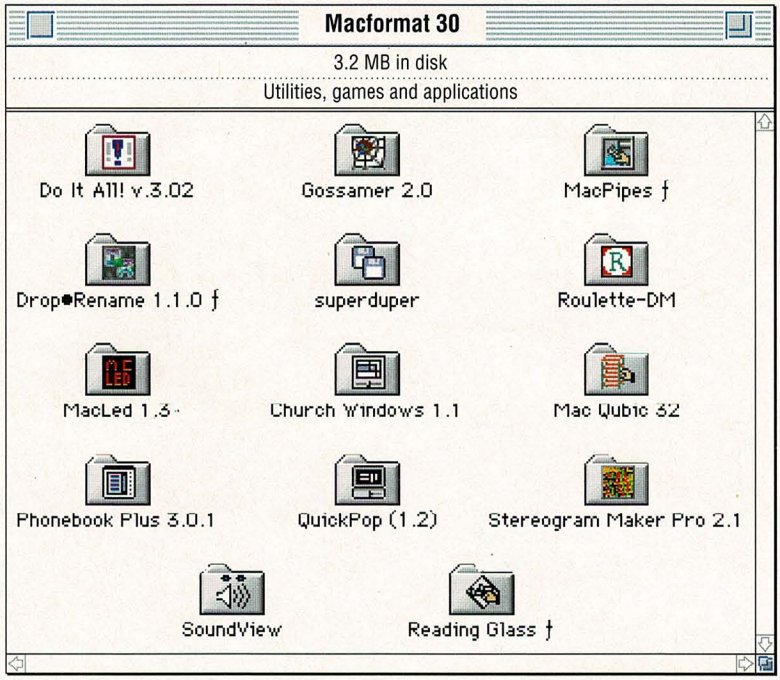
To receive your copy, phone the Apple Information Centre free on 0800 127753.

Apple®

To use eWorld software, you will need a Macintosh personal computer, with system 6.0.7 version software or later, 4MB of RAM to run eWorld or 8MB to run eWorld and the eWorld Web Browser, 4MB available hard disk space and a modem running at a minimum of 2,400bps. You will be sent full details of monthly subscription and connection charges with your eWorld Starter Kit. All eWorld charges are made in US Dollars and are deducted from your nominated credit card on a monthly basis – payment by American Express, Mastercard or Visa. *©September 1995, Apple Computer, Inc. The Apple logo is a registered trademark and Apple, eWorld, the eWorld logo and Macintosh are trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc., registered in the US and other countries.*



Like a floppy disk packed with software to warm you on those increasingly cold dark evenings? Colin Dalziel tells more.



There's loads of different software on this month's floppy disk, including some great games, superb applications and indispensable utilities.

Now we've fulfilled all your clip art needs, you can turn to more frivolous pursuits with games of Mac roulette or 3D noughts and crosses. You can dress up your Mac with *Church Windows 1.1* and if you're at all myopic, try enlarging your menus with *Reading Glass*.

START HERE

High density floppy disks normally contain up to 1.4Mb of software, but to bring you as much as possible, we use a compression program to fit more on. So you need to decompress the software before using it – you'll need 3.2Mb of hard disk space. We also recommend that you make a backup of the MACFORMAT cover disk, just in case anything goes wrong. Here's what to do...

1 Ensure the original cover disk is write-protected (move the tab so that you can see through the hole).
2 Insert the MACFORMAT disk.
3 Drag the disk's icon over your hard disk's icon.
4 The contents are copied onto your hard disk, but are still compressed and cannot be used yet.
5 Drag the cover disk icon to the Wastebasket to eject the disk.
6 Insert a blank high density disk.
7 Drag the MACFORMAT 30 folder from your hard disk onto the blank disk's icon to make your backup.

To decompress the cover disk, open the MACFORMAT 30 folder on your hard disk.
1 Double-click on the MACFORMAT 30 icon.
2 Click **Continue**.
3 A box then asks you where you want to save the software. Choose the place on your hard disk where you want everything stored and click **Save**.

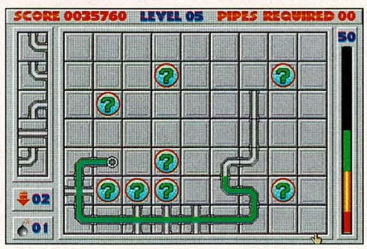
Before installing the cover disk, we always recommend that you back up any important work on your hard disk. This precaution will avoid problems should it transpire that any of the software isn't compatible with your setup.

We make every effort to check our disks for compatibility and viruses, but the information here is intended as a guide only, and MACFORMAT cannot be held responsible for any damage to data, any inability to use this software or any resulting losses. So please, take the precaution of backing up first.

MacPipe

Game

Requires: System 7 or later, 256-colour Mac



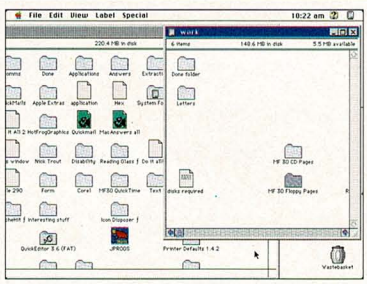
Mac leaking? For all your desktop plumbing needs, call *MacPipes!*

This is an addictive adaptation of the classic game *Pipeline* (or do we mean *Pipemania?*). Your job is to build a pipeline of a specific length using the pieces of tubing made available. Time is limited for the construction, so you must make sure you have a continuous length of tubing to carry the liquid which flows when the clock runs out. If you have enough piping, then on you move to the next level and head for hours of happy plumbing! A great feature in this game is the panic key option. Just hit the key if your boss walks in and the game is replaced by a System error box!

Utilities

Various

Requires: see individual Read Me files



Customise your Mac with a variety of window styles. Wow, there's even a Windows 95 style, just so you don't feel left out.

QuickPop has two functions that will be of benefit to you. The first enables you to assign hotkeys for up to 30 Apple Menu Items, Control Panels, applications etc. When the hotkeys are pressed from within almost any program, the selected item instantly launches. The second function enables you to pop a menu up anywhere on the screen when you hold down a predefined key and the mouse button.

Church Windows enables you to change the style of the windows on your Mac – you can even make your screen look like Windows 95, should you so desire. *MacLed* displays messages that scroll across the screen in an unmissable LED style, and *SuperDuper* is a useful little program that enables you to copy floppies without having to go through all that oh-so-tedious mousework.

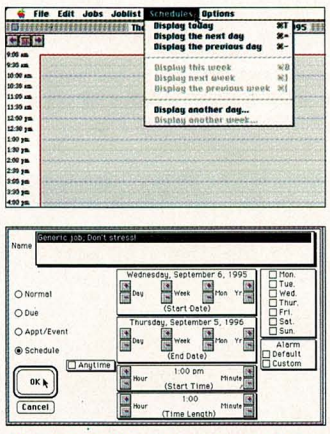
And if you've ever needed to change the names of a whole load of files you'll know what a pain it can be. *Drop•Rename* solves your problems and makes the job as simple as can be.

Do It All!

Personal organiser

Requires: any Mac

If you want to get yourself organised, this is the program for you. *Do It All!* is a job prioritiser, to-do list and an appointment manager. You can set alarms for events, store jobs as current, postponed or done, and much more!



Never again will you have an excuse for missing an appointment.

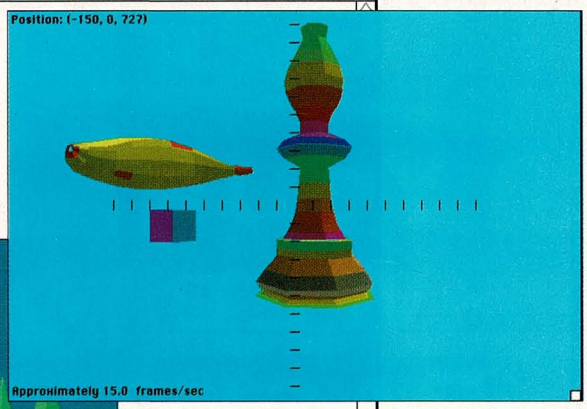
Gossamer

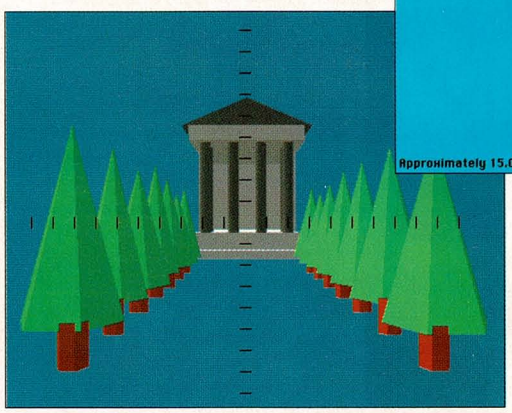
Virtuality reality viewer

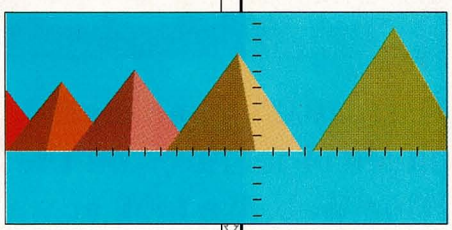
Requires: LC or better, System 6.08 or later

Gossamer gives you a window on a 3D virtual world. You can move around a wide variety of worlds and view objects from any angle. Included are sample worlds which enable you to move around objects such as a Bishop, a Banana and a Face. You can create your own worlds from the sample objects included, or build your own in PLG or WLD file formats.

To boldly go where no one has gone before...



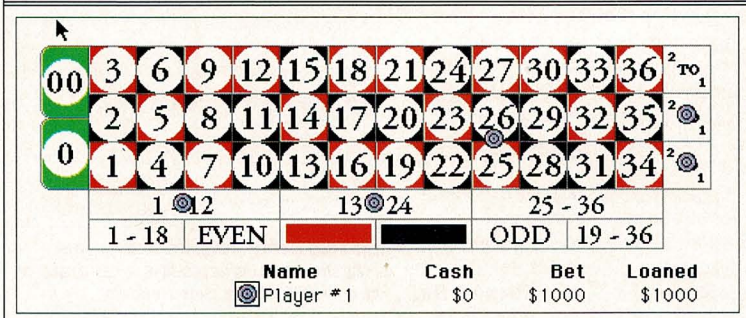




Roulette

Game

Requires: colour Mac



You won't lose your shirt on a spin of the wheel with this version of *Roulette*.

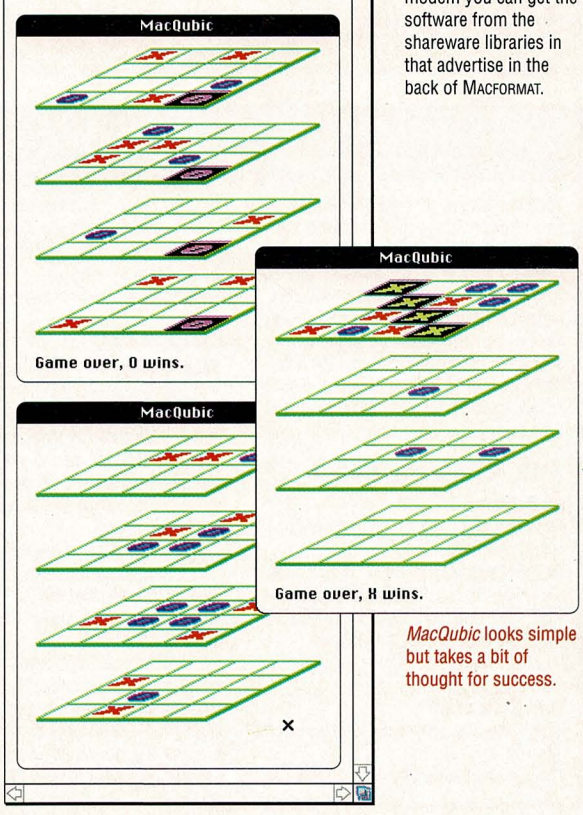
Roulette is a simple gambling game that enables you to place bets in the same way as you would at a real casino, with one big benefit – you can plunge yourself into virtual debt without having to worry the bank manager. After playing this game for a while you'll be reminded why you never go to casinos for real, although we reckon we've just developed an unbeatable system...

MacQubic

Game

Requires: any Mac

MacQubic is a 3D noughts and crosses game in which you have to get four crosses in a row. The only problem is that the game has a nasty habit of winning. Every time anyone round here thinks they've got it sussed, it nips in and steals the win! Perhaps you can do better. Just click on a square to make a move. An on-line help function explains the game's other features.



MacQubic looks simple but takes a bit of thought for success.

WEB COMPO

We couldn't fit the HTML software on the floppy, but you can still enter our competition by downloading the shareware via links from FutureNet. If you don't have access to a modem you can get the software from the shareware libraries in that advertise in the back of MACFORMAT.

GOT A PROBLEM?

If the cover-mounted high density disk or CD-ROM you have is defective, return it to us and we will replace it. Please make sure you have followed the installation procedures described in these pages correctly, to ensure that there is a physical problem with the floppy disk itself. Otherwise, the replacement will be just the same!

Return HD disks to:
Discopy Labs
PO Box 21
Daventry
NN11 5BU

Return CD-ROMs to:
MACFORMAT CD returns
Future Publishing
FREEPOST (BS4900)
Somerton
Somerset
TA11 6BR

Enclose a self-addressed padded envelope (but we'll pay return postage) with the disk or CD, and a description of the fault. Please do not return disks or CDs to the editorial office; we don't hold any stocks of them and can only refer you to the addresses above.

MACFORMAT's gone digital, with pages of features on the World Wide Web. We look at what's on offer and bring you the latest news from FutureNet, the site that hosts all our magazines.

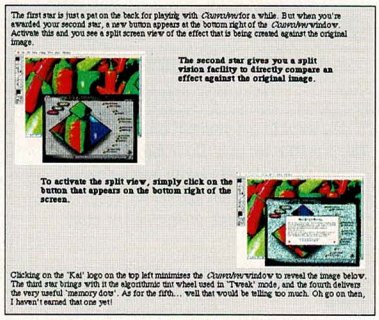
Getting connected

All you need to connect to FutureNet is a modem and an Internet account like Demon or CityScape, or a direct server connection. There are no hidden charges – FutureNet is absolutely free!
Just use your World Wide Web browser to connect to

http://www.futurenet.co.uk/

FutureNet
Future Publishing's daily electronic magazine
What's new on FutureNet
More than 20 new features added every week - don't miss them!
FutureNet World News
Your on-line daily news service, updated at 1pm BST every weekday
Magazines & books
Check out Future's superb print magazines and book offers
.net magazine
The world's best Internet magazine is on-line
SEE A DIFFERENT WORLD

FutureNet brings you pages of features and reviews from every one of Future Publishing's many magazines, plus a daily news section.


The first star is just a pet on the back for playing with Convolver for a while. But when you're awarded your second star, a new button appears at the bottom right of the Convolver window. Activate this and you see a split screen view of the effect that is being created against the original image.
The second star gives you a split vision facility to directly compare an effect against the original image.
To activate the split view, simply click on the button that appears on the bottom right of the screen.
Clicking on the 'Kai' logo on the top left minimizes the Convolver window to reveal the image below. The third star brings with it the algorithmic tint wheel used in 'Tweak' mode, and the fourth delivers the very useful 'memory dots'. As for the fifth... well that would be telling too much. Oh go on then, I haven't earned that one yet!

MACFORMAT's own Web pages include reviews of a variety of Mac programs, including this one of *KPT Convolver* from MACFORMAT 25.

This issue MACFORMAT looks at electronic magazines and how they will change the future of publishing – but you can read all of Future's magazines on-line right now.

MACFORMAT's own Web pages give you a taste of what's in the printed version of the magazine, as well as giving you an opportunity to read articles from issues you can no longer buy. There's also the latest Mac news and the World Wide Web Road Map, which can connect you directly to other Web sites of interest.

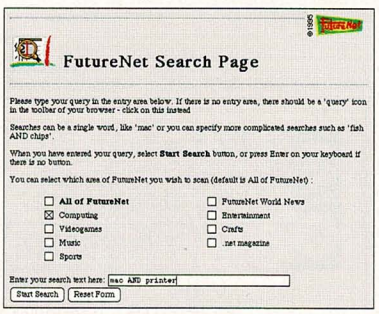
In conjunction with our feature on digital publishing (starting on page 47), we've added links to sites that offer guidance for creating your own Web magazine. The box below shows the other new links for this issue.

Meanwhile, there's more Mac information in the FutureNet Computing News section, a daily briefing on all areas of computing. It's part of our World News area.

We register a 'hit' every time someone looks at a page or image on FutureNet, and the latest figures show that FutureNet now gets 2.8 million hits each month.

RICHARD HILL

There's a Max Ernst exhibition now on at the WebMuseum, one of the sites you can find through the art indices we've listed.


FutureNet Search Page
Please type your query in the entry area below. If there is no entry area, there should be a 'query' icon in the toolbar of your browser - click on this instead
Searches can be a single word, like 'mac' or you can specify more complicated searches such as 'fish AND chips'.
When you have entered your query, select Start Search button, or press Enter on your keyboard if there is no button.
You can select which area of FutureNet you wish to scan (default is All of FutureNet) :
All of FutureNet
Computing
Videogames
Music
Sports
FutureNet World News
Entertainment
Crafts
.net magazine
Enter your search text here: mac AND printer
Start Search
Reset Form

Can't find exactly what you're looking for on FutureNet? A facility is provided to search part or all of the site for your chosen subject.

LINKS FOR THIS ISSUE

You can visit any of these sites by typing its address (which you'll find below the title) into the Location line of your Web browser. Or you can go to the World Wide Web Road Map section of MACFORMAT's pages on FutureNet. You can find direct links to each of these sites and any addresses mentioned elsewhere in this issue, as well as dozens of others. This issue's links will be maintained until at least Friday 5 January 1996.

Arts & Entertainment

Art Galleries
http://www.internetweb.co.uk/centres/artgalle/artgalle.htm
This thorough site offers an alphabetical list of links to top museum and gallery sites, including the WebMuseum site, which we took our title image from.
Multimedia art reviews start on page 97.

Wide World of Art
http://www.slip.net/~tommy999/wdeworld.htm
This excellent index site casts a wide net over the ocean of art available on the Web, pointing you in the direction of music and multimedia sites as well as fine art and modern art.
Multimedia art reviews start on page 97

Computing

HTML Editors
http://www.uwtc.washington.edu/Computing/WWW/Mac/HTMLEdit.html
Jon Wiederspan's comprehensive overview of HTML editing software for the Mac also enables you to download most of the programs mentioned, and try them out for yourself.
Create a Web page or magazine, page 60.

Web Sites with Cool PDF
http://www.adobe.com/Acrobat/PDFsites.html
Adobe compile a list of sites that use their Acrobat software to make PDF (Portable Document Format) publications. Take a look at the new wave of digital publishing. You can also download a free copy of the program you need to view PDF files, and there are instructions on how to set it up to work with your Web browser.
Future Publishing, page 47.

Design & Graphics

Apple Design Project '95
http://www.info.apple.com/hed/design-project.html
Each year, Apple hold a student competition in which colleges around the world are invited to create prototypes for innovative computers designed for specific tasks. This page gives the lowdown on this year's entries.
MacroScope, page 33.

General

Electronic Journals
http://www.edoc.com/ejournal/
Part of the World Wide Web Virtual Library (a link to the index page is in the Jumplist section), this site has a list of hundreds of electronic magazines. There's also an accompanying index of Web publishing companies.
Future Publishing, page 47.

Every Home Page in the World
http://techweb.wais.com/techweb/ng/current/default.html
People around the world create home pages – sites where they write about themselves, their interests or whatever else might take their fancy. This site offers a list of individual home pages and further indices you might care to look at.
Future Publishing, page 47.

Yahoo Magazines
http://www.yahoo.com/Entertainment/Magazines/
The definitive Web index offers an exhaustive guide to magazines from around the Web.
Future Publishing, page 47.

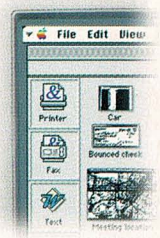
Jumplists

Macintosh WWW Pointers
http://thales.nmia.com/~jjm/
A short but sweet Mac index with plenty of useful contacts. Just to show that you don't need a mighty PowerMac to make Web pages, this was done on an LCIII...

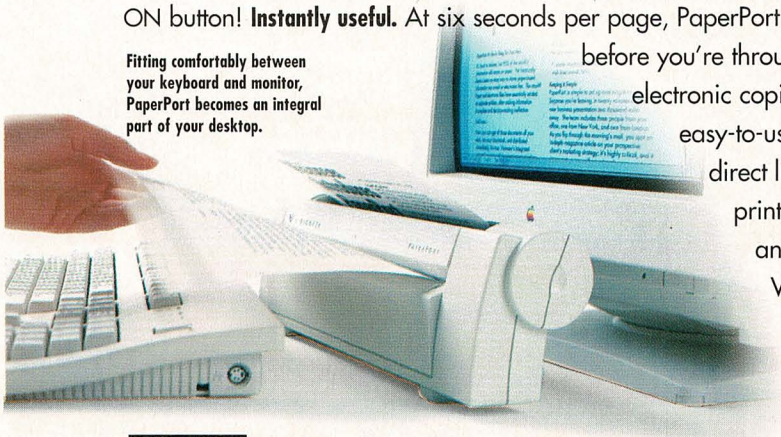
PaperPort. The fastest way to get paper into your Mac.

If it's on paper, it's PaperPort-able!

Okay, so you have no trouble getting paper out of your Mac. But what do you do with the articles, letters, receipts, and business cards—the important papers—that cross your desk every day? You use PaperPort, that's what! The first truly simple, super-small input device that converts your paper documents into electronic ones. **Always ready to go.** Just plug PaperPort into your Mac's printer or modem port and then feed in a piece of paper. PaperPort grabs the paper, scans it and launches the software automatically—there isn't even an ON button! **Instantly useful.** At six seconds per page, PaperPort begins to display your documents on the screen even before you're through entering them! Now you've got permanent electronic copies that you can retrieve at any time, using PaperPort's easy-to-use search tools. **Streamline your work.** With PaperPort's direct links to word processors, OCR software (included!), printers and fax modems, you can file, edit, annotate, print and send your documents directly to others.



Once your document's in, one click will print it. Another will fax it. And a third will OCR scan it. What could be easier?



Fitting comfortably between your keyboard and monitor, PaperPort becomes an integral part of your desktop.

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PaperPort. It's the in thing for your Mac.

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CU COMPUTERS UNLIMITED

VISIONEER

This is...

Authorised Reseller

computer warehouse

"This 5200 deal is just best - CW exceed my every test!"

"I'm glad to say, proud to say, I like to shop the CW way!"

YOU CAN'T BUY BETTER!

YOU JUST CAN'T WACK A POWER MAC!!

POWER MACINTOSH 6200

Shown with optional 15" monitor & Keyboard

FREE SOFTWARE

6200/75
8MB RAM
500MB DRIVE + CD
WAS £989
NO KEYBOARD

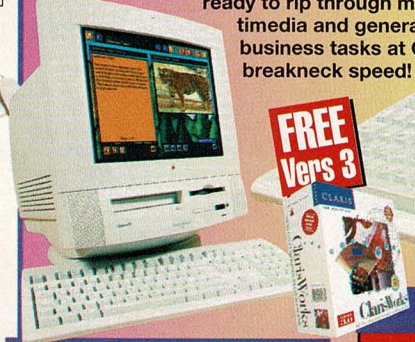
CALL FOR NEW LOW PRICES ON THE 6200/75!!

A CW EXCLUSIVE!!

5200/75

THE ALL-IN-ONE MACINTOSH!!

Great for the office, ideal in the home, Apple have revolutionised personal computing again! Here is a CW fast Power Mac with a superb built-in 15" monitor, X4 CD drive and stereo speakers. Plus it can even have a built-in TV tuner!! It's no slouch either thanks to a 75Mhz 603 PowerPC processor and 256K level 2 cache. All this power means effective 7100/66 performance meaning it's ready to rip through multimedia and general business tasks at CW breakneck speed!



FREE Vers 3

FREE NOW SOFTWARE WITH THIS MAC!!

NOW CONTACT
Superb contact manager with intelligent links to Now Up-To-Date.

NOW UP-TO-DATE
Organize your life with this excellent scheduler which works in harmony with Now Contact.

FREE FREE

5200/75
8/500 CD + 14.4 MODEM
£1199
EXCLUDING & VAT

5200/75
8/500 CD + TV TUNER
£1299
EXCLUDING & VAT

THE CW SPEC CHECK

- Motorola 75Mhz 603 processor
- 8Mb RAM expandable to 72Mb
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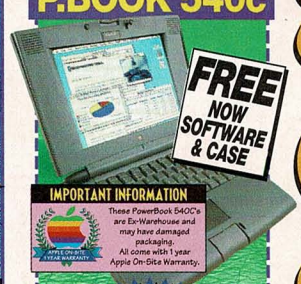
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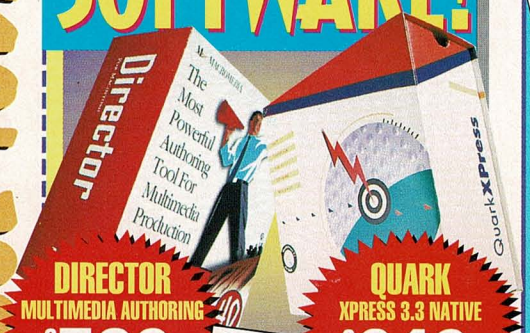

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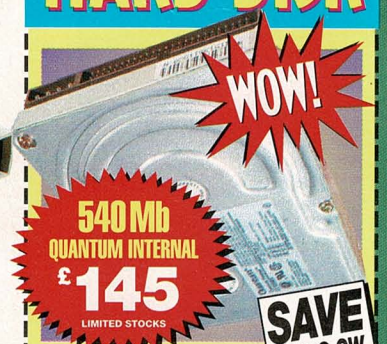

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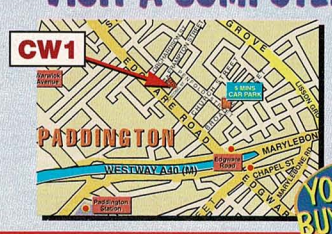

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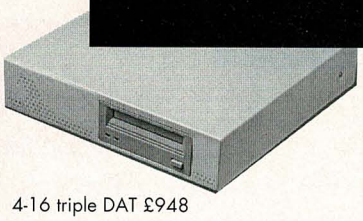

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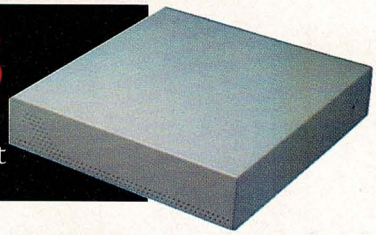

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MACFORMAT NEWS

Mac-compatible hold-ups, more Mac software in shops, and cure *Word* of a naughty virus. News Editor: Richard Hill.

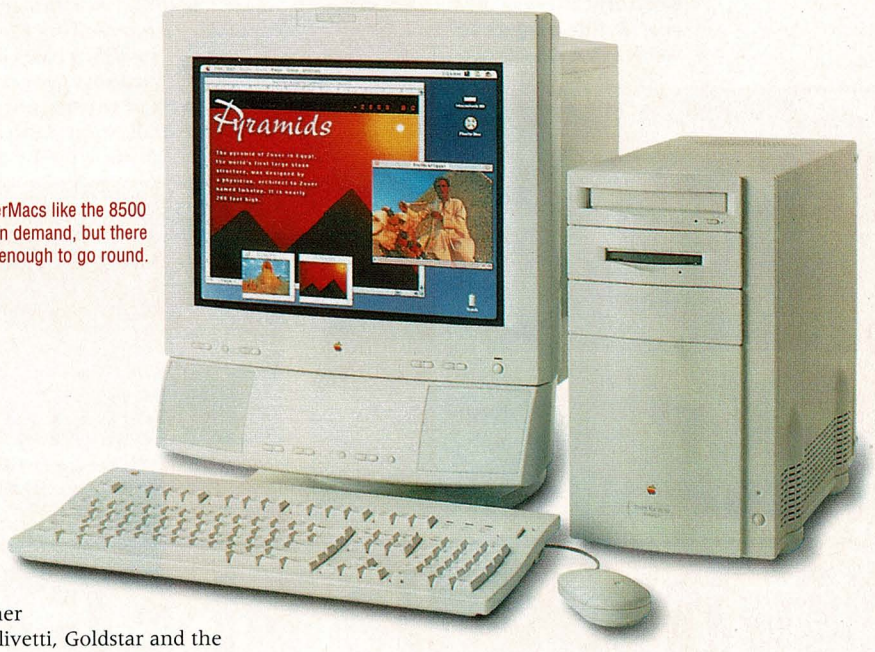
Parts drought delays clones

Deals between Apple and other companies to produce computers based on the Mac are being disrupted because there aren't enough parts around to make the machines. Several companies want to make Mac-compatible computers, but Apple are being restricted in their attempts to find more firms to join the scheme.

Apple have been inviting companies to license the Mac OS (operating system) software and put it on their computers. But because the Mac OS relies on custom-made chips, licensees have a limited choice of suppliers for some parts. After experiencing problems meeting demand for some Macs, including the newest PowerMacs, Apple are increasing production of parts to solve the problem.

Apple vice president David Nagel admitted recently that Apple themselves have back orders for Macs worth $900,000 waiting to be met – so it makes little sense to increase demand further until they know they can meet it.

According to reports in the Mac industry newspaper *MacWeek*, Apple's talks with major computer maker Gateway 2000 are on hold because there will not be enough of some key components for at least six months.



New PowerMacs like the 8500 are much in demand, but there aren't enough to go round.

Three other firms – Olivetti, Goldstar and the well-known education firm Acorn – are said to have signed on the dotted line to make Mac-compatibles, but their official announcements must also wait until the problem's been sorted.

Partners are important to Apple if they are to meet current demand and succeed in their intention to get a lot more people using Macintoshes. The danger is that if the shortage continues, firms may just decide to wait until the Common Hardware Reference Platform (CHRP), the successor to the Mac, is launched late in 1996 instead – and a whole year will have been wasted.

Existing Mac-compatible firms are coping with the parts drought in different ways, which may offer more immediate solutions. Power Computing are making their own parts, and have said they're talking to Olivetti and Acorn about providing them with components. Meanwhile, Radius have brought in IBM to help them make enough machines, and Apple are in talks with the New Taiwan PC Consortium, a giant group of Far East firms with plenty of manufacturing capacity, who also want to license the Mac OS.

IBM almost bought Apple

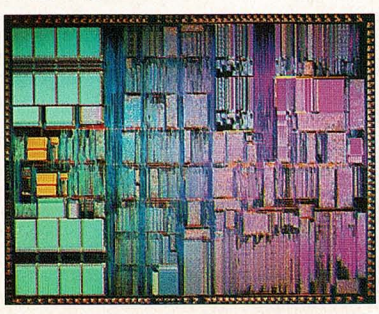
IBM gave serious thought to buying Apple last year, according to an unnamed IBM executive speaking to the Reuters news agency. Talks were held during the summer, but IBM opted to support its rival OS/2 operating system rather than buy up Apple and the Mac OS.

Hybrid chip planned

New versions of the PowerPC chips used in Apple's PowerMacs and other computers are being developed, including one that combines PowerPC and rival Pentium chip designs into one chip.

Intel's Pentium is the fastest chip available for computers that use operating systems like Microsoft Windows, but its basic principles are being incorporated into the 615, one of IBM and Motorola's PowerPC range. If the hybrid chip becomes available, you'll be able to have one computer that runs both the Mac OS and Windows at top speeds.

The 615 is still being tested, but could be placed into machines late next year. Due before then are the 604e and the 603++, faster versions of the existing PowerMac main chips.



The PowerPC 604 chip, the chip at the heart of the new PowerMac 8500 and 9500 models, gets a boost soon, and will be joined by a super-chip that can run both the Mac OS and Windows.

Continued on next page

Apple's vow: more software in shops

UK MILLIONS ON NET

2.35 million people in Britain have used the Internet at least once. The figure is based on a survey of 13,000 people on their Internet knowledge and use carried out by NOP.

Apple are trying to make it easier for you to buy Mac programs, with plans to get more software in high street shops. The Software Shelf Initiative is a worldwide project to work with retailers and their distributors, finding out what they need and making them aware of the increasing diversity of software on offer for the Mac. You should soon have a choice of shops selling Mac multimedia, games and business programs, as well as the already popular mail order dealers.

Efforts to get British shops to stock Mac software continued at the recent European Computer Trade Show (ECTS, Olympia, 10–12 September), where Apple's behind-the-scenes talks with software makers and sellers met with a positive response. It was the first time Apple had attended this important show.

Apple aren't yet saying who they've been talking to, but shops like Dixons and Argos, where Macs are already being sold, are among the more obvious targets. More software in large bookstores and in music, video and games stores (still quaintly referred to as record shops) are also other possibilities.

Meanwhile, Apple and their software firm Claris are bringing in a new system where Claris are responsible for selling any Apple-branded software like System 7.5, as well as their own programs, like *ClarisWorks*. At the same time, Claris are working hard to sell their new, larger range through more shops.

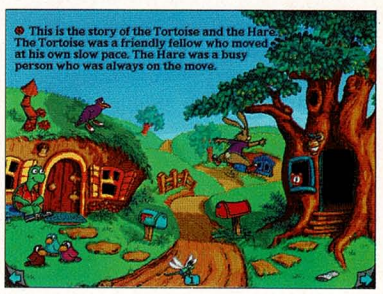
Look out for favourite Mac software like *Marathon* (left) and the *Grolier Encyclopedia* (above) in high street shops near you soon.

Multimedia at ECTS

New Mac software was strongly in evidence at the recent ECTS, including a bumper selection of multimedia CD-ROMs. The ECTS is a prominent exhibition for retailers to see the leisure programs on offer across every computer and games console.

Established Mac favourites are adding titles. Living Books showed *Dr Seuss's ABC* for the first time, and they're also localising existing popular titles like *The Tortoise and the Hare*, adding English accents and humour to these American-made children's CD-ROM storybooks. Omnimedia, makers of the MACFORMAT Classic rated *Treasure Hunt*, have launched *Mr Wonder's Greatest Toyshop On Earth*.

Newcomers to the Mac include News Multimedia, with a range of history titles using the archives of *The Times*. Imagine's first titles include CD-ROMs that draw links between fine art, poetry and classical music of a certain period, and some that show you the great cities of the world.

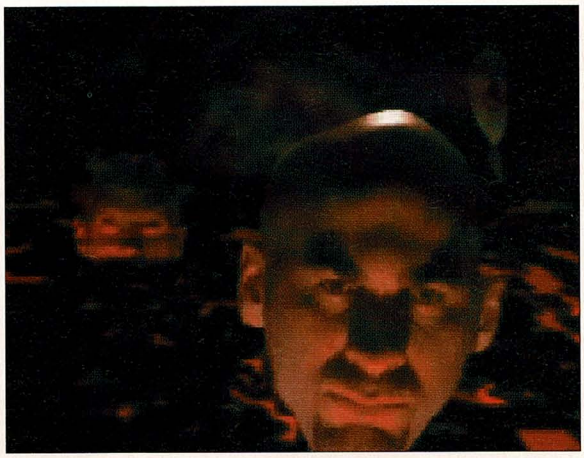

This is the story of the Tortoise and the Hare.
The Tortoise was a friendly fellow who moved at his own slow pace. The Hare was a busy person who was always on the move.

A new version of *The Tortoise and the Hare* has been specially redesigned for British audiences.

ECTS also saw further developments for the Mac as a games machine. *Doom 2* should be out now, while MicroProse are finally bringing us *Colonization*, the follow-up to the superb *Civilization*, and *Transport Tycoon*. Domark's long-awaited space epic *Absolute Zero* should be with us this month, and BMG had *Dust*, a Western adventure. Warner Entertainment showed *Bad Day on the Midway*, the latest CD-ROM from cult rock band the Residents – best known for *Freak Show*. Look out for details and reviews of these top titles in MACFORMAT soon.

Bad Day at the Midway (above) takes you to the world of the Residents, while *Dust* (right) drops you off in the Wild West – two new titles coming soon.

QuickTime 2.1 improves video



Video on your Mac will be improved with the release of QuickTime 2.1. The images here are taken from Apple's QuickTime Web site at http://quicktime.apple.com/.

The latest version of QuickTime, Apple's video playback software, is now available and offers several improvements on earlier editions. Top quality full-screen video is now easier to create, while movie clips made using Apple's popular Cinepak compression system to save CD-ROM space now look much better when you run them in 256-colour setting (particularly common in multimedia software).

The latest Sound Manager System Extension also improves audio playback. As programmers start to use the two together, you can look forward to better video on multimedia CD-ROMs and other software. Another new feature offers you the choice between running video in a small window or filling up your whole screen, depending on the power of your Mac.

We've included QuickTime 2.1 on our CD-ROM this issue, courtesy of Apple Computer, so you can create better video yourself. But you won't be able to take advantage of its features on CD-ROM until new discs are released that are specifically designed to use them. For more information on QuickTime, contact Apple on 0800 127753.

QuickTime 2.1 is included on this month's Cover CD

CD TALKS BEGIN

The two camps with rival designs for a super CD-ROM are negotiating to see if they can agree on a single standard. The two designs offer the hope of storing many times more information on one CD, but competition between the two would be expensive and confusing for customers. See our story in MACFORMAT 26 for more details on the two formats.

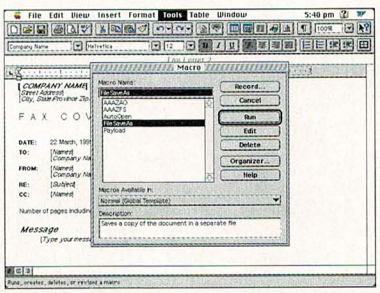
Word 'virus' under control

If you use Microsoft's *Word* for word processing, you may have heard about a virus that can infect your files. 'Prank', as Microsoft have called it, can be passed unwittingly between users of *Word* when they exchange document files. It doesn't seem to have affected many Mac users, but it has the potential to, especially if you work with people who use *Word* on PCs.

A virus is a small program written by idiots who should have more sense. If a floppy disk with a virus on it is placed in your Mac's drive, it can automatically copy itself onto your Mac's hard disk and then onto other disks you use. Some simply flash up annoying messages, while others can be more destructive and damage files on your hard disk. If you regularly exchange disks with friends or colleagues, there's a small risk of receiving a virus – although if you never use other people's disks, you're perfectly safe. MACFORMAT regularly provides *Disinfectant*, a top shareware virus detector, on its Cover Disks.

Prank isn't a true virus; it's a macro written for use with *Word*, but it can be passed from user to user in the same way as a virus. Macros are scripts you can create to automate functions within *Word*, and are embedded within *Word* files. The macro's effects on your Mac aren't too destructive. It infects your *Word* global template file; if you see a mysterious dialogue box with only a single numeral in it, you've got Prank. You'll probably find it forces you to save documents as templates rather than normal files.

Prank is simple to remove. It adds macros called AutoOpen, Payload, and FileSaveAs. There may be others beginning with AAAZ. If these appear in your copy of *Word* and you're getting the problems mentioned, delete any documents that have these macros in them. If you need to keep a document, use the **Macros** command in the **Tools** menu to delete those macros, then save it. When you have no infected files left, you can get rid of the original macros from your copy of *Word*. Open the template 'Normal' (which should be in the Templates folder), remove the infectious macros and save the document. Microsoft have also created a tool for erasing the macros – contact them on 0800 100165 for more details.



The Prank macro file circulating around the *Word* community means inconvenience for some – but no serious harm will be done.

xRES CHANGES HANDS

Macromedia have bought Fauve Software, the company behind the powerful image editing program *xRes*, rated 78% in MACFORMAT 28. The takeover fills an important gap in Macromedia's growing range of software for creating multimedia. *xRes* is currently sold through CGS Computerbild, but we'll have more information on how British distribution is affected next issue.

Claris hold amnesty

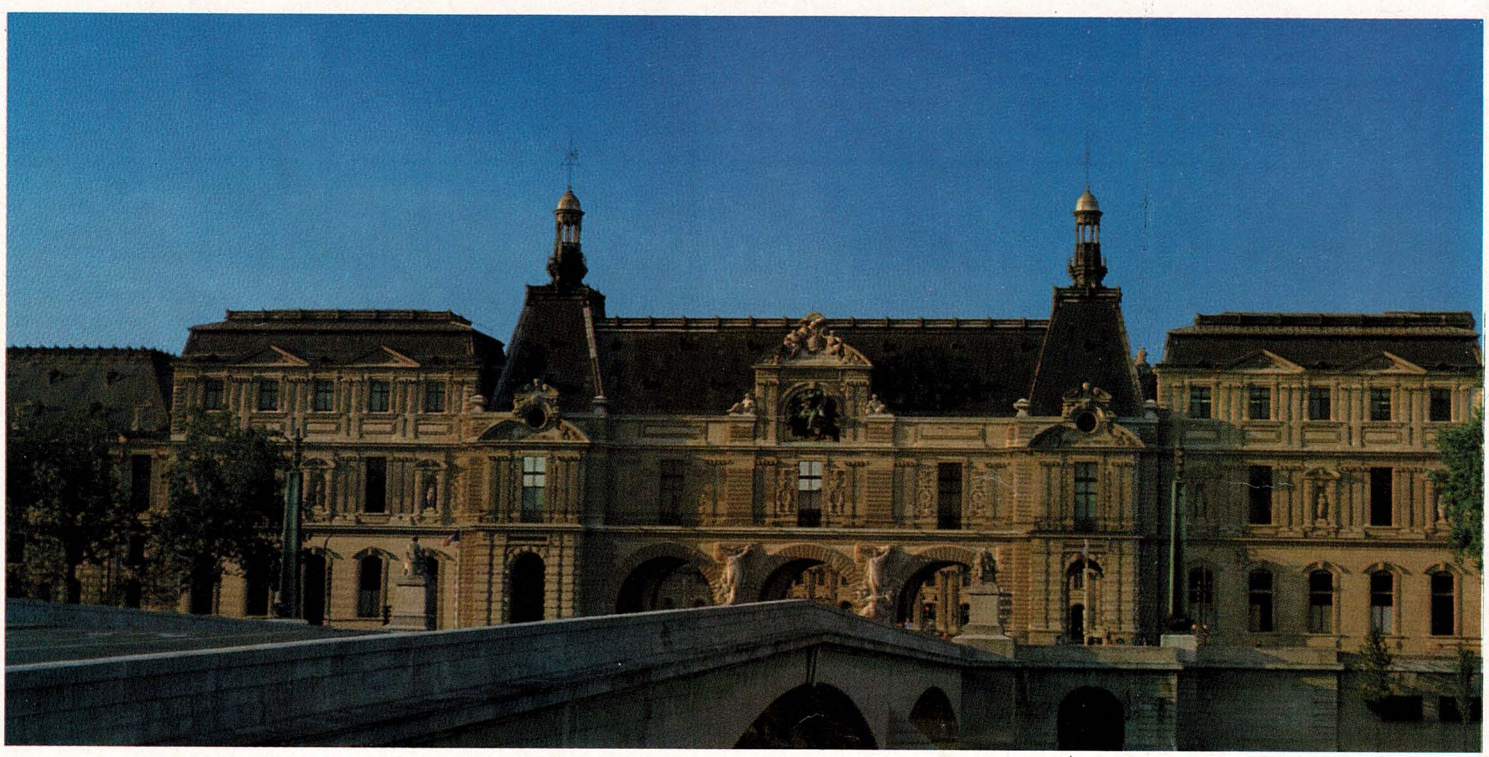
To mark the launch of *ClarisWorks 4.0*, the latest version of the popular integrated package, Claris have made an extraordinary offer. Anyone who has an illegal copy of an earlier version of *ClarisWorks* installed on their Mac can buy *Works 4.0* for £49, if they submit proof (such as a screen printout) before Tuesday 31 October.

The offer is apparently an attempt to combat software piracy – passing on copies of a program to friends or colleagues. Legal owners of *ClarisWorks*, who will have their own manual and registration number, can also upgrade for £49. The regular price is £152. For more information, contact Claris on 0181 756 0101.

For years, your sharpest ideas had to be entrusted to the dullest overhead projectors and flip pads.

Now you discover that a presentation with video, sound and animation can fit into your briefcase.

You discover that you can add French titles to a product demo and edit video-clips whilst you're flying over the English Channel.



It's how powerful

For further information about the new Macintosh™ PowerBook™ 5000 series, call the Apple Information Centre, free on 0800 127753.

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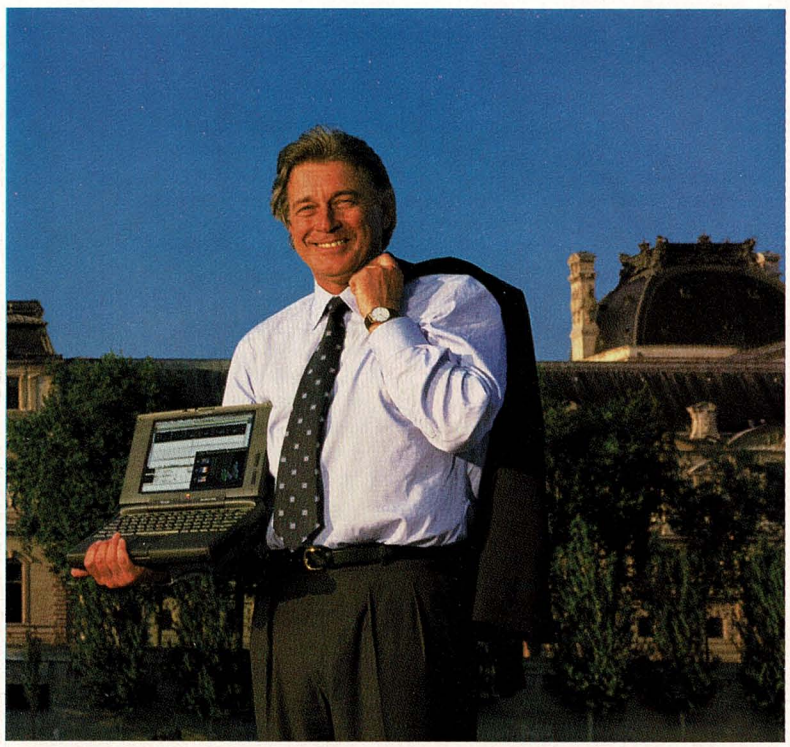
You discover that you can check a database in the New York office from the back of a taxi.

You discover that you can copy a 200 megabyte project proposal and place it in your client's palm.

You discover how convenient it can be to fax news of a successful pitch from a café in Paris to your chairman in London.

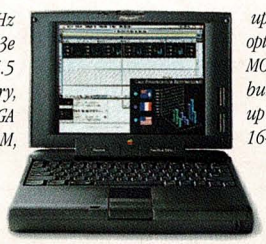
And you discover:



the computer makes you.

It's not how powerful the computer is.

100 - 117MHz PowerPC™ 603e processor, 3-5.5 hour lithium-ion battery, 6.2lb, 10.4″ VGA or SVGA screen, up to 64MB RAM,



up to 1.1GB hard drive, optional writable 230MB MO cartridge available, built-in infrared LocalTalk,™ up to 16-bit video-out, 16-bit stereo sound.

Introducing the Macintosh PowerBook 5000 series.

Macintosh PowerBook

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WHAT'S NEW

The latest version of *WordPerfect* leads our procession of top new releases, including add-ons for *QuarkXPress* and an easy-to-use accounting program. Compiled by Richard Hill.

WordPerfect 3.5

ALL ABOUT ENVOY

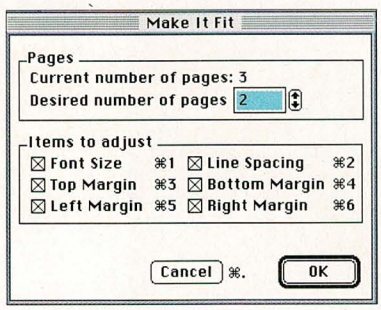
You can find out more about Envoy and similar digital publishing software in our cover feature, starting on page 57.

Novell, the makers of *WordPerfect*, claim sales of their word processor are reducing the lead of top dog *Microsoft Word*. The latest version, available now on disk or CD-ROM for around £145, is the fastest yet and has many new features – including reading your documents out loud using Apple's MacinTalk technology. The CD-ROM version includes *Envoy*, a program for viewing electronic documents, and extra clip art.

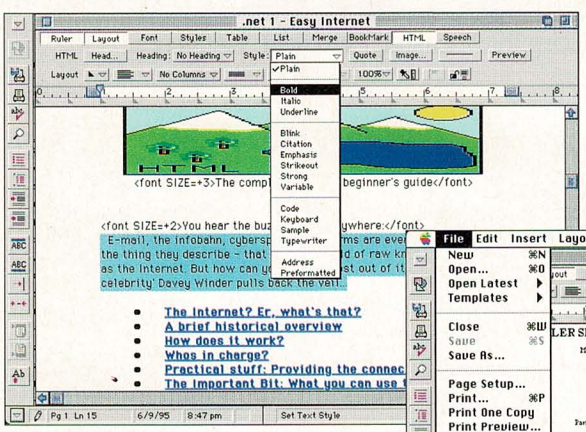
If you're looking for a program that enables you to put out quick and easy documents, *WordPerfect* now has a selection of templates to give you instant formats and automatic envelope printing. If your letter has spilt onto a new page by just a couple of lines, an ingenious Make It Fit option squishes it up slightly – adjusting margins, font size and line spacing – so it fits precisely on fewer pages.

The toolbars and control palettes you use throughout *WordPerfect* have been reworked so that features are grouped together more logically.

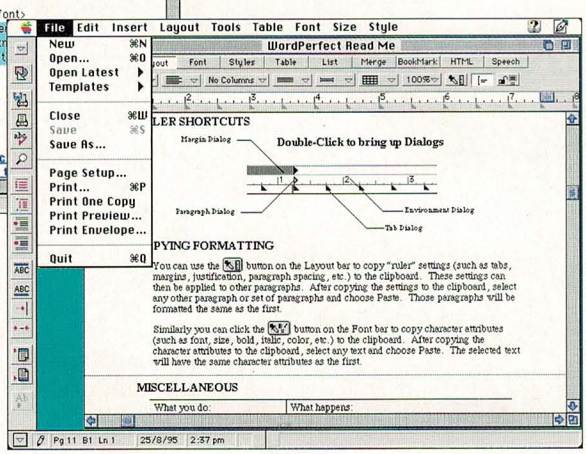
You can use *WordPerfect* to create documents ready to place on the World Wide Web area of the Internet. You can select and apply the style types used in the Web's HTML documents within *WordPerfect* and save your file ready to be viewed on a Web browser. The program gives you an immediate idea of how the page is working, by displaying links in blue, for example, and the popular *Netscape Navigator* Web browser is included. You can click on a preview button and load your page straight into *Netscape* to see it properly.



It's so frustrating when your piece just nudges a few lines onto another sheet of paper. Enter the ingenious yet simple feature, Make It Fit.

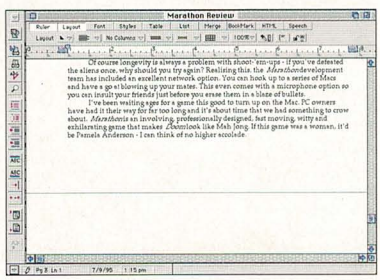


You can now use *WordPerfect* to create pages ready to put up on the World Wide Web – all the Web text styles are included.



The latest *WordPerfect* has been redesigned from the bottom up, with new toolbars and menus that make it easier to use.

- **Price: around £145. Upgrade from previous version or other word processors for around £70.**
- **Out: now.**
- **Requires: any Mac with System 6.0.7 or later, 4Mb of RAM (6Mb for PowerMac) and 5Mb to 9Mb of hard drive space (6Mb to 11Mb for PowerMac).**
- **For more details contact Novell on 01344 724000.**



WordPerfect's imaginative new feature adjusts font sizes and margin widths until your work fits snugly onto fewer pages.

NEW FOR THE MAC

Speed Doubler

Connectix's long-awaited companion to the popular *RAM Doubler* is now available for £70.45. *Speed Doubler* is a suite of programs that enables your Mac to copy files and run its disk cache more quickly. If you have a PowerMac, the emulator will boost the speed of non-PowerMac software by between 30% and 100%.

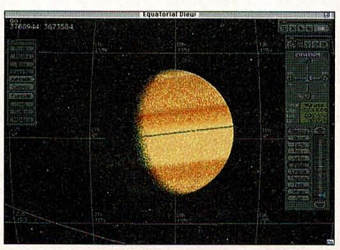
The PowerMac Power Pack gives you *Speed Doubler* and *RAM Doubler*, an excellent virtual memory system, in one box for £94 – the two bought separately would cost £141. For more details contact Computers Unlimited on 0181 200 8282.

Meanwhile, if you've already bought *Speed Doubler 1.0*, there's now a free updater to version 1.0.1, which improves performance and the program's compatibility with some Macs. The updater program is on this issue's CD-ROM.

Redshift 2

A new version of the popular astronomy program *Redshift* is due out in October. *Redshift 2* offers a more accurate version of the planetarium – the main feature. You can travel through a view of space with every star and planet precisely plotted. Or you can go to suggested points in space and time, like watching a solar eclipse or riding on Halley's Comet as it passes the earth.

Ten guided tours introduce the whole subject of astronomy to you, and there are photos taken during American and Russian space missions. The price of *Redshift 2* is £49.99 – look out for a review in MACFORMAT soon. For more details contact Maris Multimedia on 0171 488 1566.



The new version of *Redshift* gives you a more accurate picture of the universe and adds multimedia tours.

Artpad 2

Following last issue's story about across-the-board price cuts for Wacom's UltraPad range of graphics tablets, the price of the ArtPad 2 has also fallen from £199 to £175. The ArtPad has a drawing area of 4 inches by 5 inches and comes with a pressure-sensitive pen, so you can comfortably vary the width of your line while sketching.

The ArtPad 2 comes in a package with the graphics program *Dabbler* for £210, a price cut of £24. For more details contact Computers Unlimited on 0181 200 8282.

PageMaker 6.0

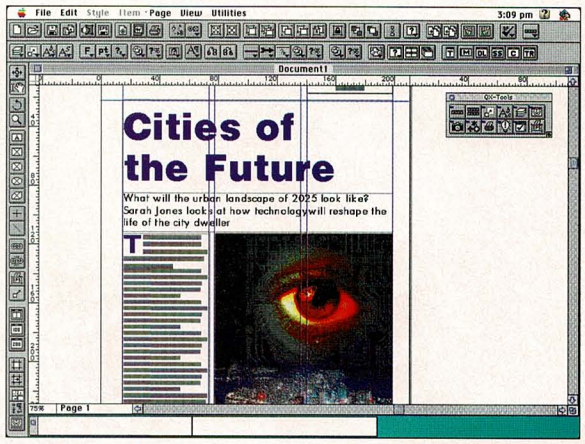
Adobe have confirmed that the price of *PageMaker 6.0* (see News in MACFORMAT 28) remains the same as the previous version – an average street price of £605, or £118 for an upgrade. For more information, contact Adobe on 0181 606 4000.

QX-Tools

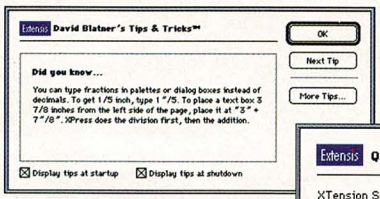
Time is of the essence in desktop publishing, hence the constant drive towards faster computers and more powerful programs. *QX-Tools* is a £128 set of ten XTensions – sub-programs you can integrate with *QuarkXPress* to make using it more efficient.

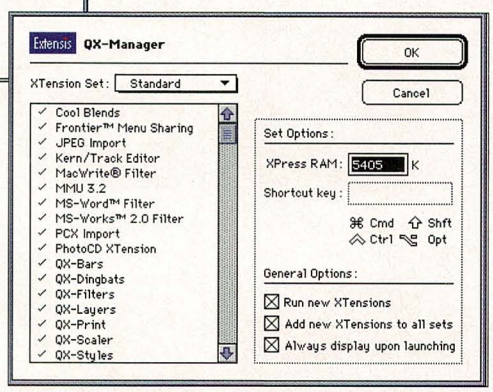
The XTensions include QX-Manager, which enables you to choose which XTensions you want to load, and QX-Dingbats, which makes entering symbols into text easier. With QX-Filters you can use *Photoshop* plug-in filters with images in your document.

QX-Tips & Tricks gives advice on using *XPress* more effectively – you can set it to offer a tip each time you run *XPress*. It's reminiscent of the Wizard in Microsoft programs like *Word*, but even more similar are the QX-Bars. These are rows of buttons you can use instead of the selections in pull-down menus. You can add and delete buttons if you want easy access to a function that isn't covered.


Cities of the Future
What will the urban landscape of 2025 look like? Sarah Jones looks at how technology will reshape the life of the city dweller

QX-Tools gives you ten add-ons for *QuarkXPress*, to add new features and give you easy access to existing ones.


Extensis David Blatner's Tips & Tricks™
OK
Next Tip
More Tips...
Did you know...
You can type fractions in palettes or dialog boxes instead of decimals. To get 1 5/8 inch, type 1 "/8. To place a text box 3 7/8 inches from the left side of the page, place it at "3" + 7"/8". XPress does the division first, then the addition.
Display tips at startup
Display tips at shutdown



Choose which XTensions you want to use, enter symbols into text easily, and get hints and tips – and more.

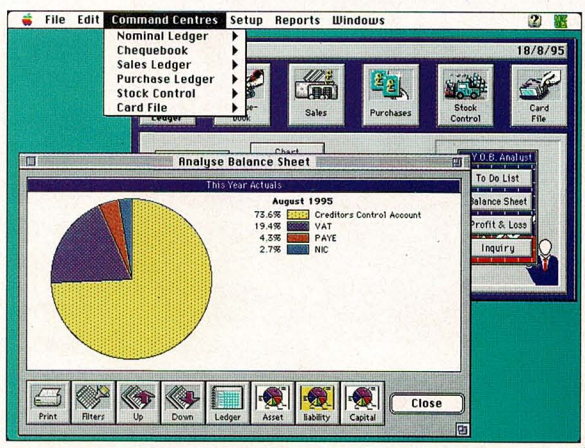
■ Price: £128. ■ Out: now.
■ Requires: LCII or better with 3Mb of free RAM, System 7.1 or later, 6Mb of hard disk space, and *QuarkXPress*.
■ For more details contact Principal on 0181 813 5445.

MYOB 5.0

Running a business is murder – keeping tabs on which invoices haven't been paid, making sure your VAT returns are up-to-date... *MYOB (Mind Your Own Business) 5.0* is the latest version of a program that aims to smooth your furrowed brow by giving your Mac the hard work.

You use *MYOB* by entering individual records (a cheque paid in or an order fulfilled, for example) as they happen. *MYOB* automatically cross-references your entry into the right areas and compiles reports so you can check your progress at a glance. Flow-chart diagrams on the main screen even suggest the most time-saving process for you to follow.

New features include producing VAT account reports, and customisable templates for standard letter and invoice formats. There's also an Easy-Fill facility, enabling you to type in only the first few characters of an entry – *MYOB* consults its database of clients and fills in the rest.



You can get *MYOB* to produce a report on any aspect of your business and print out the results.

■ Price: £230. ■ Out: now.
■ Requires: Mac Plus or better, System 6 or later, 2Mb of RAM (4Mb if using System 7).
■ For more details contact Best Programs on 01992 451551. MF

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THE CLONES!

It's no laughing matter - The new Radius 81/110s pack a really powerful punch!

radius

A Mac OS-compatible system from the only company qualified to do it right. The Radius 81/110 is the result of nearly a decade's worth of experience making high performance peripherals for the Mac. It offers 100% compatibility with Power Macintosh software and a 110MHz PowerPC 601+ processor. The Radius 81/110 has 16Mb of RAM standard (exp. to 264Mb), a 4x CD-ROM drive, 16-bit audio, built-in video support for 17" displays and built in Ethernet.

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Radius 81/110 16 / 2Gb CD **£3499**

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Colour StyleWriter 2400 Portable	£375
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Radius Intellicolour 20" ERGO Display	£1399
SuperMac 21" TXL Monitor	£1525
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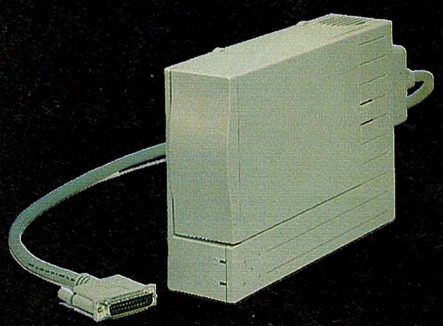

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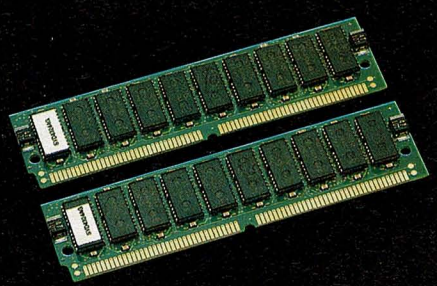

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MACROSCOPE

Real world computing

Design95 is an annual competition that challenges students to imagine the future of computing, then make it real. Richard Hill looks at this year's entries.

When you use a computer, you tend to find that it's up to you to adapt to it, not the other way round. You have to learn concepts like icons, windows and menus to use the machine, for example – you have to become part of the computer's world. The ideal would be to bring the computer into the real world, to have it adapt to you and your needs.

That's what Apple's Design95 contest is all about. It's an annual competition held by Apple, where selected student teams from ten universities around the world are invited to establish a more equal relationship between man and computer. They are set the task of designing a machine that can react and adapt itself to a real life need – something you can remove from the confines of your office or home den and use as a tool.

Teams from universities around the world are invited to establish a more equal relationship between man and computer

Each team had to come up with an idea and explore it thoroughly, thinking about how their design could work and discussing with potential users what they might need. The teams were drawn from several courses within each college – industrial design, marketing, engineering and graphic design, for example – reflecting the variety of disciplines needed to evolve modern technology.

None of these devices exist – the groups submitted research notes, sketches and mock-up models of their machines to be assessed. Many of the designs would be too expensive to actually make today, but it's through ambitious projects like this that ideas emerge, which can then be applied to existing computers.

The eight projects here were judged to be the most well-realised, and the teams were invited to fly out to San Francisco in July, where Apple laid on tours and a celebratory dinner for the winning students.

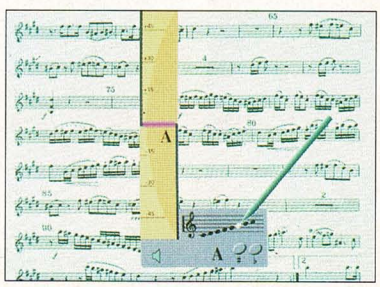
Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA

The world of classical music is one of the last places you might imagine could benefit directly from computer technology, but the people behind the muse project think different. The muse is an electronic replacement for the traditional music stand, as used by musicians to hold their sheet music while they play.

The muse retains the look and feel of the music stand you already know, which means it's as light and portable as it always was, but there's no need to turn the pages yourself as you play. The sheet music is instead displayed on a richly-detailed screen, and a built-in microphone enables the muse to listen to the orchestra, displaying each succeeding page of music as the orchestra reaches that point.

There's a built-in digital metronome for helping you keep time as you rehearse. A digital score library can keep over 50 pieces of music at once.

You can also use a stylus to add notation to your digital manuscript, and it includes a built-in pitch sounder with which you can tune your instrument. The team worked with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, observing how members worked with each other and adjusting the design accordingly.



The muse is an electronic music holder that can display the music and turn pages for you. You can use a stylus to add your own notes.

India National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, India

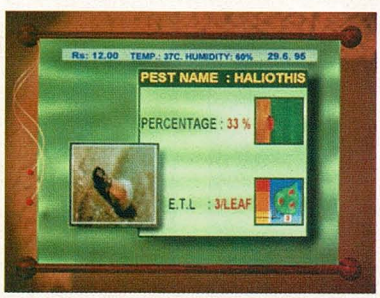
Pests destroy nearly a third of the food crops grown in India, exacerbating problems caused by the demands of a fast-growing population. The Institute team looked at ways of making it easier to exchange information on pests and pest control – a difficult task in a country so vast. It was crucial to understand how the structure of Indian rural society operated, so that the computer system could work with it rather than against it. Traditionally, a person called a gramsevak is responsible for sharing information with the farmers in his own region.

The result is INFARM, a network of devices. Upon discovering a pest, the farmer can hire a portable device,

Continued on next page

AND THE WINNER IS...

With entries from many teams across the participating colleges, all of these eight were in fact judged to have won. Their prize was the trip to California.



With INFARM (above and left), you can photograph pests using a simple device, then match them up with a central information file to learn how to get rid of them.

which resembles a magnifying glass but is actually a digital camera. He uses this to photograph the crop pest and returns to the gramsevak's office. He loads his captured images into a desktop computer there, which is in turn connected to a national network of agricultural data. With a choice of languages (or spoken word for illiterates), the computer helps the farmer compare his findings with the database store, and suggests the best method of keeping the pests under control.

THE ATHENA SYSTEM

Ohio State University, Columbus, USA

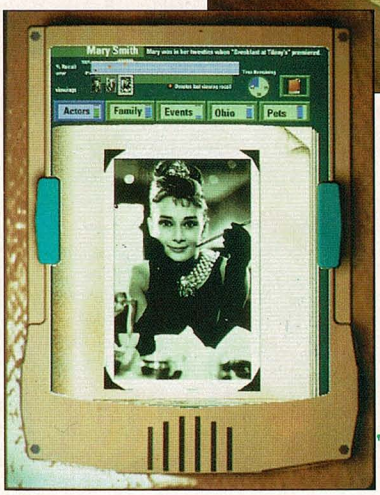
People suffering from Alzheimer's disease are systematically robbed of memory until they're unable to cope for themselves. The Athena System is intended to slow the decline, stimulating a patient's mind by reviving memories through multimedia.

Each patient will own an Athena Book, a portable electronic device that can play sounds and display pictures. The books are connected through a radio network to a desktop computer like a Mac, which stores pictures and sound on its hard drive. These can be sources that are unique to one patient – pictures of family, for example – but they can also include a larger shared resource of images from times past. As many Alzheimer patients will be of a similar age, they will have shared memories – classic films, wartime anthems, that sort of thing.

The people caring for the patients can use the system to chart the progress of each patient, and it also stimulates vital interaction between patients and carers.

MORE DESIGN95

If you have access to the World Wide Web, you can see more information, photos and design sketches at **http://design95.atg.apple.com/**. Links to some of the participating colleges are included.



The Athena System (right and below) is a book-like multimedia aid designed to help Alzheimer sufferers stimulate their powers of memory.

INSIGHT

Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden

Compared to Apple's own Newton portable computer system, the InSight is perhaps the project closest of the eight selected by Apple to current reality. It's a device for city dwellers, helping them find their way around and plan out hectic schedules.

Already in existence is the Global Positional System (GPS), a network of satellites and computers that can provide coordinates for any location on the planet. The InSight makes use of GPS technology to pinpoint your location within a large city. It can then make suggestions for the best route to your destination. It can also estimate how long your journey should take, even working in tandem with an appointments planner to tell you when you need to start your trip.

FollowMe☛ uses an electronic tagging system to make sure you never lose anything again.

You can also use InSight to communicate with other InSight or computer users, showing them where you are and how to reach you. And you can connect to the Internet to view information like bus timetables or film times, supplied by local authorities.

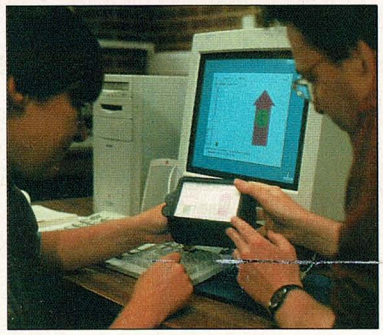
DO-DOT

Stanford University, Palo Alto, USA

And you probably thought going to a theme park was about having fun. Instead of whooshing round on the rollercoaster, too often you find yourself queuing for an hour with mewling kids in tow. Do-Dot banishes those amusement park blues.

It's a tiny device you can clip to your jacket or carry in a pocket. Rather than standing in line, you can make a reservation to go on a ride and go off to explore the park. The Do-Dot network keeps track of where you are and signals you when it's time to get on the ride – by bleeping and shaking gently! You're given warning that your time is nearing, with an icon on the device that changes colour as minutes pass. And because Do-Dot knows where you are, it can make sure you're given enough warning to make it back in time.

Do-Dot is also useful for finding lost children or anyone else in case of emergency. And because you're free to wander instead of being stuck in line, you're more likely to spend money in shops – so the theme park owners are happy too.



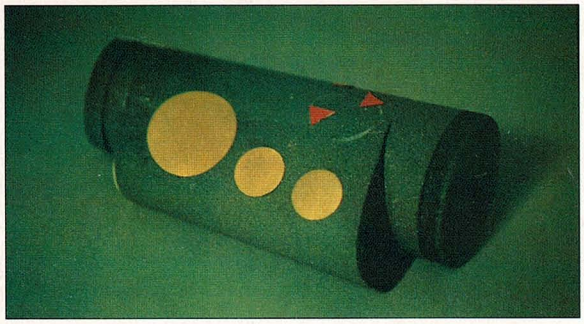
FollowMe☛ is a system designed for finding library books, but it could have far wider uses.

FOLLOWME☛

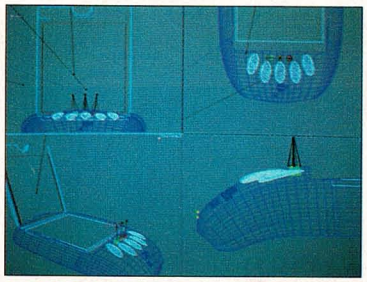
University of Sussex, Brighton, UK

The scattiness of the human mind is a perennial problem. FollowMe☛ uses a portable computer combined with an electronic tagging system to make sure you never lose anything again. In this case, the system was applied to a library, where you rely on other people to replace a book on its correct shelf. Which never happens.

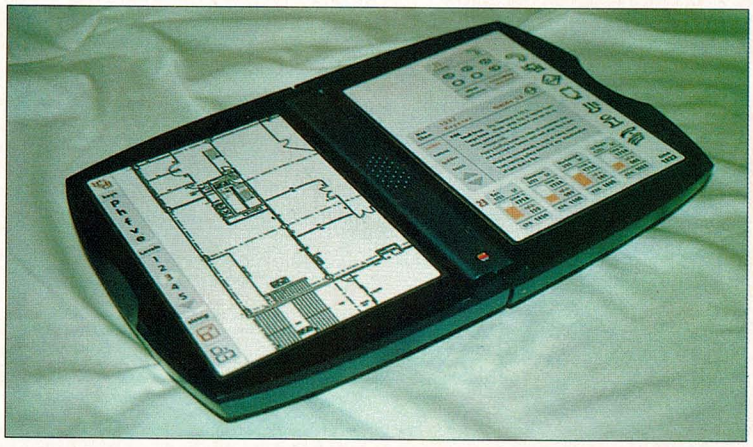
Each of the hundreds of thousands of books in the library is tagged with a unique code. You're given a portable device that is linked through radio to scanners dotted around the library, which means the book is always within range of at least one scanner. Your



InSight is like an electronic telescope on the world. Hold the device (above) to your eye to see information on where you are (left) and how to get there.



FootPrint (above left and above right) is a stylishly-designed portable guide to a botanical garden. Great care was taken to ensure that people with no previous computer experience could use it.



This hand-held unit (above) is part of Phoenix, a complex network of communication and safety measures that can work in tough conditions.

device shows a map of the library and gives directions, until you arrive at the place where some idiot dumped the book.

The Brighton team also devised SmartCap☛, which has the simplest interface of any here. It's a baseball cap with two LED lights in its peak – one for left, one for right. You just put the cap and turn as directed by the lights until you reach the book.

The tiny Do-Dot tells you when it's time to go on the next ride – and keeps your kids safe.

PHOENIX

University of Technology, Sydney, Australia

Phoenix helps firefighters stay in touch with each other under some of the most intense conditions imaginable – the middle of a fire.

While fighting a blaze, the lead fireman (or Guv if you believe *London's Burning)* can monitor the position and activity of each of the team. Each firefighter has tags and communicators embedded in his clothing, and Guv carries about a handheld device, which displays the locations of the team and offers information like building floor plans or chemical compositions.

The challenge for the Sydney team was to provide all of this without interfering with the firefighters' job. Equipment had to be unobtrusive yet robust and, in the case of the main device, have a clear display to ensure there was no margin for error.

FOOTPRINT

University of Toronto, Canada

Footprint offers a virtual guide to the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington, Ontario. It's a system that first-time visitors with no computer experience feel at home with, while offering levels of information from simple directions to scientific data.

It's a flip-top portable machine, with screens in base and lid – which maximises the screen size while keeping the device small. The top screen provides information; the bottom accepts input as you respond to choices listed in menus. This was less confusing than combining the two functions onto one screen (as you'd find with the World Wide Web, for example). The device is connected through a network to a main computer, which can supply the level of information you need. **MF**

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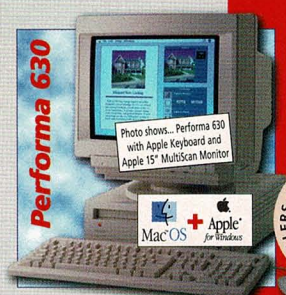

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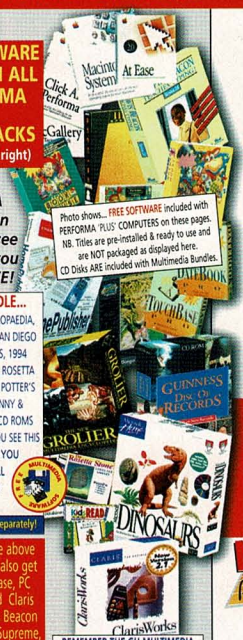
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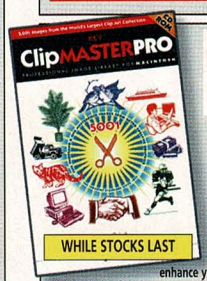


EXCLUSIVE GH 5001 FREE CLIP ART IMAGES

BUY ANY MAC WITH A FITTED CD DRIVE AND THIS SUPERB CD COLLECTION IS YOURS FREE... ONLY FROM GH

Use these great images to enhance your Mac documents - you'll have thousands of options at your fingertips which can be used in any program that supports TIFF format. Imagine a Claris Works word processing document with added graphics from subjects that include... Animals, Alphabets, Business, Cartoons, Computers, Sport, Exercise, Fashion, Travel, Food, Frames & Borders, Health, Holidays, Special Events, People, Religion, Retail Attention Getters and MORE!

- All our advertised products clearly show what's included and our packs are not "stripped down" just to give an attractive headline price.
- Our attractive and flexible commercial or personal finance agreements suit the budgetary needs of both businesses and individual purchasers. Ask for details, you could have your new MAC sooner than you'd think! See below for details*+
- Although all GH's offers are the keenest possible, this a fast moving business and things change rapidly. Call us to confirm prices and/or ask if new deals have started since this advert was published!
- If you're upgrading to a newer MAC or are looking for a real bargain, call us. We'll buy your old system or may just have the fully guaranteed second-user machine you're looking for right now!

STANDARD PERFORMA 5200 SYSTEM & SOFTWARE

A unique ALL-IN-ONE PowerMac System that incorporates a PowerPC 75MHz 603 CPU, CD600i Drive, 15" MultiScan FST Colour Display, Stereo Speakers, 500 Mb Hard Drive, Built-In Microphone and Infra Red Remote Control (for TV versions only) - ALL IN ONE! Including... Mouse, Connecting Cables, Manuals & Apple Design Keyboard option

RAM	HD	MONITOR	CD	Keyboard	Price
8Mb	500Mb	15"MS Integral FST	✔	✘	£1219 (£1432)
8Mb	500Mb	15"MS Integral FST	✔	✔	£1299 (£1526)

PERFORMA 5200 'PLUS' MULTIMEDIA BUNDLE

GH Performa 5200 'PLUS' Bundles below INCLUDE ALL the software detailed above and then our MultiMedia 'PLUS' bundle too!. GH offer you EXTRA VALUE with the addition of some great software on CD. Both 'PLUS' Packs incorporate the latest Quad Speed CD ROM Drives and the higher spec unit also boasts built-in TV with full infra red remote control of Start Up/Shut Down/TV and CD Functions. Infra red can be used with any 5200 with an added TV upgrade kit.

SUPPLIED WITH... Tutorials, Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing, Spectre Supreme (Game), Click Art Performa, MacGallery Clip Art Treasure Pack PLUS... GROLIER MULTIMEDIA ENCYCLOPAEDIA, 1994 GUINNESS DISK OF RECORDS, MICROSOFT DINOSAURS, ROSETTA STONE POWER PACK, THE SAN DIEGO ZOO PRESENTS THE ANIMALS, BEATRIX POTTER'S THE TALE OF BENJAMIN BUNNY and LEONARDO THE INVENTOR... ALL CD ROM!!! AND... CLARIS ORGANISER 1.0 Vers. 2 too!

RAM	HD	MONITOR	CD	TV	Keyboard	Price
8Mb	500Mb	15" MS Integral FST	✔	✘	✔	£1349 (£1585)
12Mb	500Mb	15" MS Integral FST	✔	✔	✔	£1549 (£1820)

BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS...

New Product

GH will have details of the new 100MHz Performa 5300 and 6300 models. These will sell alongside the 75MHz 5200 and 6200s and although costing more, they'll offer a performance advantage - worthwhile for some users.

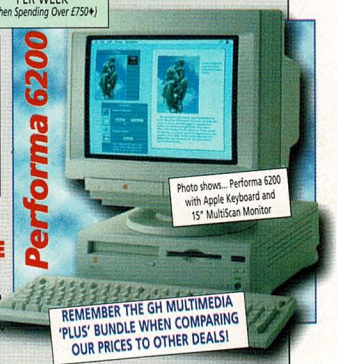
CALL US NOW FOR FURTHER DETAILS

6200s FROM...

£989 (£1162.08 inc. VAT)

OR JUST... £7.83 PER WEEK (When Spending Over £750+)

All our Performa 6200's are supplied with... System Software, At Ease, PC Exchange, Claris Works 3.0, Manuals, Mouse, Connecting Cables etc and, Monitor & Keyboard options and, just like 5200s, FEATURE... the 75MHz PowerPC 603 CPU!



REMEMBER THE GH MULTIMEDIA 'PLUS' BUNDLE WHEN COMPARING OUR PRICES TO OTHER DEALS!

STANDARD PERFORMA 6200 SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE

All GH 6200s incorporate, CD600i Drive, 500 Mb Hard Drive, Built-In Speakers (some packs include Stereo Apple Design Speakers), Infra Red Remote Control (TV versions), Mouse, Cables, and Manuals plus Apple Design Keyboard option.

RAM	HD	MONITOR	CD	TV	Keyboard	Price
8Mb	500Mb	NONE	✔	✘	✘	£989 (£1162)
8Mb	500Mb	NONE	✔	✘	✔	£1059 (£1244)
8Mb	500Mb	14" Performa Plus	✔	✘	✔	£1249 (£1468)
8Mb	500Mb	15" MultiScan	✔	✘	✔	£1339 (£1573)

PERFORMA 6200 'PLUS' MULTIMEDIA BUNDLE

When you buy a GH 6200 Multimedia 'PLUS' you are also...

SUPPLIED WITH... Tutorials, Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing, Spectre Supreme (Game), Click Art Performa, MacGallery Clip Art Treasure Pack PLUS... GROLIER MULTIMEDIA ENCYCLOPAEDIA, 1994 GUINNESS DISK OF RECORDS, MICROSOFT DINOSAURS, ROSETTA STONE POWER PACK, THE SAN DIEGO ZOO PRESENTS THE ANIMALS, BEATRIX POTTER'S THE TALE OF BENJAMIN BUNNY and LEONARDO THE INVENTOR ...on ALL CD ROM!!! AND... CLARIS ORGANISER 1.0 Vers. 2

PERFORMA 6200 SYSTEMS...

RAM	HD	CD	TV	Monitor	DesSpeakers	Price
8Mb	500Mb	✔	✘	14"Trinitron	✔	£1349 (£1585)
8Mb	500Mb	✔	✘	15" MultiScan	✘	£1389 (£1632)
12Mb	500Mb	✔	✔	14"Trinitron	✔	£1549 (£1820)
12Mb	500Mb	✔	✔	15" MultiScan	✘	£1599 (£1879)

WHEN CONSIDERING FINANCE, PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU REFER TO THE APPROPRIATE SECTION BELOW AS ARRANGEMENTS DIFFER FOR PERSONAL INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES (Including Sole Traders, Partnerships etc.)

+BUSINESS FINANCE+ - Weekly rates shown exclude VAT and are based on a fixed cost 3 year Apple Commercial Credit lease, payable quarterly. Available to all businesses, including those recently established, making a minimum total purchase of £750 - subject to status.

**PERSONAL FINANCE* - *DEFERRED PAYMENT PLAN*: FOR PERSONAL INDIVIDUALS* VISITING OUR SHOWROOM FOR A LIMITED PERIOD AVAILABLE ON PURCHASES OVER £500... PAY A MINIMUM OF 10% DEPOSIT NOW, THEN NOTHING MORE FOR 5 MONTHS! During that period you can settle IN FULL (without any finance charges) or continue your agreement with normal interest arrangements (ie. Direct Debit APR 27.8%/2.07% per Month, Payment Book 32.4%/2.37% per Month). And... for the first 5 months you'll also receive FREE AGREEMENT LIFE COVER. Written details/quotations available on request. *Subject to status. Please contact us prior to your visit for details of easy application requirements.*

All listed prices are what YOU PAY, and there are NO HIDDEN EXTRAS. Prices are correct at time of going to press (Pack details may vary from time to time). Offers and Services are subject to availability and to being the latest advertised products, packs and prices. Please note goods are not supplied on a trial basis. E&OE

NEW 7200/7500/8500 & 9500s - JUST ANNOUNCED!

POWERMACS

SEE BELOW* FOR HARDWARE DOS CARD 486 PC COMPATIBLE 6100/60s, and remember, ALL MACS/POWERMACS CAN RUN WINDOWS IF REQUIRED VIA SOFTWINDOWS

Photo shows... Power Mac 6100 with Apple Extended Keyboard and Apple 14" Audio Vision Monitor

Prices for CPU only. Don't forget your Keyboard & Monitor

ALL GH POWERMACS INCLUDE SYSTEM S/W, MOUSE, MANUALS, CONNECTION LEADS etc.

AFFORDABLE POWERMAC SYSTEMS

£949 (£1115.08 inc. VAT)

PAYMENT PLAN FOR BUSINESS USERS

OR JUST... £9.95 PER WEEK (When Spending Over £750+)

GREAT GH DEALS ON ENTRY LEVEL POWERMAC 6100s

While Stocks Last

	RAM	HD	Display	CD	Keyboard	Price
6100/66	8Mb	350Mb	✘	✘	✘	£949 (£1115)
6100/66 + PC*	8Mb	500Mb	✘	✘	✘	£1529 (£1797)

* 6100/66 PC Systems inc. 486 DX2 66MHz card & MS DOS 6.2 (Windows may be purchased separately)

* REMEMBER YOU ALSO GET AN EXTRA 8Mb RAM ON THE DOS CARD TOO GIVING 16Mb IN TOTAL!

GH POWERMAC 7100s & 8100s - CALL US NOW FOR AVAILABILITY AND LOW, LOW PRICES!!!

NEW... GH HIGH SPEC POWERMAC 7200/7500/8500s

	RAM	HD	Display	CD	Keyboard	Price
NEW 7200s						
7200/75	8Mb	500Mb	✘	✘	✘	£999 (£1174)
7200/90 CD	8Mb	500Mb	✘	✔	✘	£1359 (£1597)
7200/90 CD	16Mb	1Gb	✘	✔	✘	£1779 (£2090)
NEW 7500s						
7500/100 CD	8Mb	500Mb	✘	✔	✘	£1819 (£2137)
7500/100 CD	16Mb	1Gb	✘	✔	✘	£2289 (£2690)
NEW 8500s						
8500/120 CD	16Mb	2Gb	✘	✔	✘	£3499 (£4111)

POWERMAC 9500 FROM JUST... £3799 (£4463.83 inc. VAT)

PAYMENT PLAN FOR BUSINESS USERS

OR JUST... £9.95 PER WEEK (When Spending Over £750+)

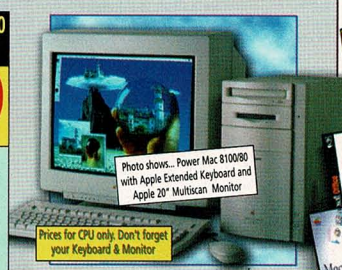


Photo shows... Power Mac 8100/80 with Apple Extended Keyboard and Apple 20" Multiscan Monitor

Prices for CPU only. Don't forget your Keyboard & Monitor

NEW GH 9500s - THE FASTEST MACS EVER!

The all new Apple Powermac 9500 Range sets new standards for speed, performance, expandability and processor upgradability. If you are a designer, engineer, multimedia expert or anyone with a need for POWER, these are the Macs to buy! Each model incorporates 6 Industry Standard PCI expansion slots for low cost plug in card possibilities. The 9500/120 CDGR & the 9500/132 CDGR come with an Accelerated 24-Bit PCI Graphics Card already fitted, whilst the 9500/132 CD is supplied without this card - allowing you to add a Graphics/Other Cards of YOUR choice.

	RAM	HD	Display	Apple Graphics Card*	CD	K/B	Price
9500/120 CDGR	16Mb	1Gb.	✘	✔	✔	✘	£3799 (£4464)
9500/132 CD	16Mb	2Gb.	✘	✘	✔	✘	£4399 (£5169)
9500/132 CDGR	16Mb	2Gb.	✘	✔	✔	✘	£4599 (£5404)

* 2Mb VRAM Included - Further 2Mb VRAM for extra performance also available - Please ask us!

Confirm you're getting the **BEST DEAL...** call those friendly people at the UK's FAVOURITE RESELLER!

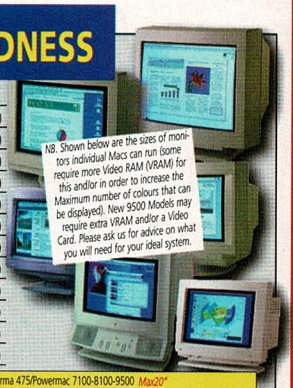
"Got a technical problem?" "Need an Upgrade?" "Want a new peripheral fitting?" **LOOK NO FURTHER...** Our Apple Approved Engineers will do the job.

GH MONITOR MADNESS

Monitor Model	Built in Speakers	Price
Apple 14" Performa Plus (.28)	✘	£219 (£257)
Apple 14" Trinitron (.26)	✘	£249 (£294)
NEW Apple 14" MultiScan (.28)	✔	£CALL (£Call)
Apple 15" MultiScan (.28)	✔	£299 (£352)
Sony 15" SFI Trinitron MultiScan (.26)	✘	£345 (£406)
Formac 17" Trinitron MultiScan (.26)	✘	£549 (£645)
Apple 17" Trinitron MultiScan (.26)	✔	£659 (£775)
Sony 17" SFI Trinitron MultiScan (.26)	✘	£659 (£775)
Radius 17" PrecisionView Trinitron (.26)	✘	£669 (£786)
NEW Apple 17" Trinitron AudioVision 1710 (.26)	✔	£CALL (£Call)
Radius 20" IntelliColor (.26)	✘	£1359 (£1597)
Apple 20" Trinitron Multiscan (.26)	✘	£1399 (£1644)

LC III/Performa 450-460-630/Quadra 630/Powermac 6100-5200-6200 Max 17" Performa 475/Powermac 7100-8100-9500 Max20"

NB. Shown below are the sizes of monitors individual Macs can run (some require more Video RAM (VRAM) for this and/or in order to increase the Maximum number of colours that can be displayed). New 9500 Models may require extra VRAM and/or a Video Card. Please ask us for advice on what you will need for your ideal system.



MACINTOSH KEYBOARDS

Apple Design Keyboard	£79 (£93)
Apple Extended Keyboard	£139 (£164)
Apple Adjustable Keyboard	£165 (£194)

TV, VIDEO & GRAPHICS UPGRADES

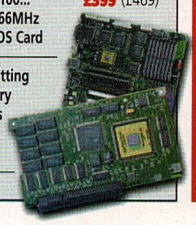
630/5200/6200 Video-In Card	£90 (£106)
630/5200/6200 Video-In and TV Tuner Card	£210 (£247)
630/5200/6200 Video-Out Card	£210 (£247)
630/5200/6200 MPEG FMV Video CD Playback Card (Can only be fitted to Macs without DOS card)	£199 (£234)
Raster Ops Paintboard Prism 24-Bit Accel. Nubus Graphics Card	£539 (£634)
5200 External Monitor Connection Port Kit	£29 (£34)

MACINTOSH EXPANSIONS

Macintosh 630/5200/6200... Comms Card	£199 (£234)
Powermac 6100... PC 486 DX2 66MHz Microsoft DOS Card	£399 (£469)
Collection, fitting and redelivery for upgrades please add...	£30 (£36)

MACINTOSH CHIP UPGRADES

RAM - 4Mb SIMMS	£105 (£123)
RAM - 8Mb SIMMS	£199 (£234)
RAM -16Mb SIMMS	£359 (£422)
RAM - 4Mb to 32Mb DIMMS	£CALL GH!!!
Powermac 256K Cache	£159 (£187)
Powermac 512K Cache	£251 (£295)
630 - FULL 68040 with FPU Chip Upgrade	£309 (£363)



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GH is a family business established in 1955, supplying computers since 1982.

With approaching £40 million worth of units sold, and almost a quarter of a million happy customers, our trading and service records are second to none!

For example - our after sales care even includes FREE collection and return by our Apple Authorised Service Department of major units purchased by mail order, should it be required. Beware of dealers who simply sell to you and leave you to sort out your own problems!

Why don't YOU try us and find out why WE are the UK's Favourite Apple Reseller?

Giles Harwood - Managing Director

FAX FOR A... **QUICKQUOTE 01-773 831040**

ORDER HOTLINE... **01-773-836781**

ALL Credit Cards are Security Checked!

MACINTOSH SOFTWARE

GRAPHICS	Quark Xpress 3.3 - Native PowerMac	£649	(£763)
	- 68030/40 (Non P/Mac)	£567	(£690)
	Adobe Illustrator 5.5	£289	(£340)
	Adobe Photoshop 3.0	£400	(£470)
	Adobe Collection	£499	(£586)
	KAI's Power Tools	£99	(£116)
	NEW KPT Vector Effects	£99	(£116)
	NEW KPT Power Photos	£99	(£116)
	KPT Convolver	£99	(£116)
	KPT Bryce	£99	(£116)
	Aldus Freehand	£320	(£376)
BUSINESS	Claris Works 3.0	£98	(£115)
	Claris Filemaker Pro	£98	(£115)
	Microsoft Office	£362	(£425)
	Microsoft Word	£255	(£300)
	Microsoft Excel	£259	(£304)
	WriteNow	£30	(£35)
	M.Y.O.B (accounts)	£150	(£176)
	SignPost	£79	(£93)
UTILITY	SAM	£55	(£65)
	SAM 4.0 (Inc. 1Yrs Updates)	£109	(£128)
	RAM Doubler	£60	(£70)
	Speed Doubler	£60	(£70)
	Norton Utilities	£81	(£95)
	Suitcase	£59	(£69)
	After Dark 3.5	£30	(£35)
EDUCATIONAL	Encarta '95	£64	(£75)
	Cinemania '95	£42	(£49)
	Kid Pix 2	£30	(£35)
	Living Books - Tortoise & the Hare	£30	(£35)
	DK - The Way Things Work	£41	(£48)
	DK - Incredible Dictionary	£34	(£40)
	DK - Encyclopaedia Science	£64	(£75)
	DK - Ultimate Human Body	£51	(£60)
GAMES	MYST CD	£34	(£40)
	Marathon	£39	(£46)
	SIM City 2000	£30	(£35)
	Dark Forces	£34	(£40)
	A-10 Attack	£39	(£46)

MACALLY GAMES CONTROLLERS
Joystick £43 (£50)
GamePad £34 (£40)

"...at GH, we'll look after you..."

SERVICE, SUPPORT and WARRANTIES: GH is one of Apple UK's selected Authorised Service Providers (not all Resellers have this accreditation). Our standard One Year GH Gold Warranty gives you a comprehensive backup. GH also offer a range of options for business and professional users which may be essential for systems in high dependency/constant use

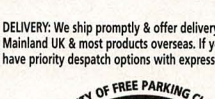
BY PHONE: We'll help with any queries and when you're ready to order we accept Visa, Mastercard, Access, Switch, Connect, Delta and Lombard Creditcharge (most 'store cards' are Lombard Creditcharge and we happily accept them).

BY POST or FAX: When ordering include your name, address and preferably a contact phone number with your order requirements. If charging a credit/debit card include its number and expiry date (and issue number with Switch cards). Make Cheques (please allow 7 days clearance prior to despatch), Bankers/Building Society Drafts or Postal Orders payable to Gordon Harwood Computers

PRICES: Please remember to confirm prices in case you are looking at an 'old' magazine. Prices can change (up or down) before the magazine's cover month has passed. Please confirm before sending orders by post.
*For the convenience of personal and business customers, we list **most** prices both with and without VAT (Inc. VAT prices are to the nearest full £ - shown in brackets)*

EXPORT: Most items are available at TAX FREE PRICES to non EC residents & overseas UK Armed Forces Personnel (with CO's document). Please call us for confirmation of prices and carriage charges.

DELIVERY: We ship promptly & offer delivery of all orders throughout Mainland UK & most products overseas. If your order is urgent we have priority despatch options with express delivery available.



FREE FONTS WITH ALL PRINTERS ONLY FROM GH!!!

NEW APPLE 4/600PS

600 dpi LASER

£599 (£703.83 Inc. VAT)

New Product

OR JUST... **£4.74** PER WEEK (When Spending Over £750+) — SUBJECT TO STATUS. PAYMENT PLAN FOR BUSINESS

FREE FONTS with Apple 4/600PS Printer See below for details ONLY FROM GH!

WHILE STOCKS LAST

Mono A4, 600dpi, 4ppm, RISC Processor, Adobe PostScript Level 2, 2Mb RAM (exp. to 6Mb), Adobe Memory Booster allowing printing of complex files with less RAM, LocalTalk, can link to TokenTalk and Ethernet via LaserWriter Bridge 2.0 Software - APPLE's own 600 dpi!

APPLE MONO LASERWRITER PRINTERS...

Personal LaserWriter 300 - 300dpi, 4ppm Mono	**£429**	(£505)
LaserWriter 320 - 300dpi, 5ppm Mono, P/Script Level 2	**£649**	(£763)
LaserWriter Select 360 - 600dpi, 10ppm Mono, P/S Level 2	**£1049**	(£1233)
LaserWriter 16/600 - 600dpi, 16ppm Mono, Postscript Level 2	**£1599**	(£1879)

APPLE 12/600PS COLOUR LASERWRITER

COLOUR LaserWriter - Full Colour and Mono A4, 600dpi, 12ppm Mono/3ppm Colour, RISC Processor, Adobe PostScript Level 2, 12Mb RAM (exp. to 40Mb), LocalTalk/Ethernet/Parallel etc. **£4999** (£5874) Includes FREE LOCAL installation

APPLE StyleWriter 1200 Mono
360dpi x 720dpi Inkjet 3PPM Printer for budget laser-like quality output. Quickdraw GX compatible.
£199 (£234)

APPLE StyleWriter 2400B Colour
Excellent 360dpi colour output or 720 x 360 dpi mono. Ideal for proofs - the LATEST Colour S/Writer
£349 (£410)

APPLE StyleWriter 2200 Colour
Colour 360dpi or Mono 720 x 360 dpi. Compact and Portable - Ideal if you're on the move.
NEW LOW PRICE!!! **£279** (£328)

StyleWriter 2200 Rechargeable Battery
£58 (£68)

HP DESKWRITER Inkjet Printers...

HP320 - Mono 600 x 300dpi	**£190**	(£224)
HP320 - Inc. Sheet Feeder	**£214**	(£252)
HP600 - Mono 600 x 600dpi	**£247**	(£290)
HP660 - Colour 600 x 300dpi With Resolution Enhancement!	**£349**	(£411)

EXCLUSIVE to GH...
100 FREE FONTS WITH EVERY PRINTER PURCHASED!!!
GH WILL GIVE YOU FREE - THE 100 "MORE KEY FONTS' SET COMPATIBLE WITH YOUR NEW PRINTER (either TrueType or PostScript Type 1), AND THEN, IF YOU WISH, YOU CAN ALSO PURCHASE THE 100 'ORIGINAL KEY FONTS' SET FOR ONLY £30!
REMEMBER THOUGH, THIS OFFER IS AVAILABLE ONLY WHEN YOU BUY YOUR PRINTER FROM GH!

WHILE STOCKS LAST

PRINTER CONSUMABLES

StyleWriter...			**All HP DeskWriters (except 660)...**		
I/II/Portable - Black Cartridge	**£16**	(£19)	Black Double Cap. Cart.	**£21**	(£24)
2400 - Black Cartridge	**£22**	(£26)	Tri Colour Cartridge	**£24**	(£28)
Colour Cartridge	**£24**	(£28)	**HP 600/660 DeskWriters...**		
Black Ink Tank	**£6**	(£7)	Black Double Cap. Cart.	**£24**	(£28)
Colour StyleWriter Pro...			Tri Colour Cartridge	**£25.50**	(£30)
Black Hi-Capacity Cart.	**£8.50**	(£10)	**Toners...**		
C, M, Y or K Cartridge	**£7.50**	(£9)	For Apple 300/320	**£51**	(£60)
CMYK - 4 Colour Set Cart.	**£30.50**	(£36)	For Apple 360	**£81**	(£95)
Epson Stylus...			For Apple 16/600	**£90**	(£106)
Black Cartridge	**£17**	(£20)	**Apple Inkjet Printer Paper...**		
Colour Cartridge	**£30**	(£35)	A4 Coated - 200 Sheets	**£24**	(£28)
360dpi Paper, 200 Sheet	**£19**	(£22)	A4 Backprint - 20 Sheets	**£25.50**	(£30)
720dpi Paper, 200 Sheet	**£22**	(£26)	A4 Glossy - 50 Sheets	**£28**	(£33)

GH ACCESSORIES ESPECIALLY FOR YOUR APPLE

10 - TDK 3.5" HD Blank Disks	**£7.66**	(£9)
50 - TDK 3.5" HD Blank Disks	**£34**	(£40)
3.5" Disk Head Cleaning Kit	**£3.40**	(£4)
GH Quality Mouse Mat	**£4.26**	(£5)
SPECIAL - GH ESSENTIALS PACK: *10 3.5" HD Disks, Mouse Mechanic, Disk Head Cleaner and Mouse Mat*	**£17**	(£20)
SPECIAL - GH ESSENTIALS PLUS PACK: *As above PLUS Apple 1 Year On-Site Maintenance Warranty*	**£30**	(£35)
Essential Mouse Mechanic Maintenance Tool	**£5**	(£6)
Genuine Apple Desktop II Ergonomic Mouse	**£38**	(£45)
Syquest 44Mb Cartridge	**£34**	(£40)
Syquest 88Mb Cartridge	**£43**	(£51)
Syquest 200Mb Cartridge	**£68**	(£80)
APPLE 1 YEAR ON-SITE MAINTENANCE	**£20**	(£24)

200 SYQUEST 200Mb Standard 5.25" Syquest Drive Just... **£383** (£450)

PINNACLE RCD 1000 CD ROM WRITER Only... **£1299** (£1526)

88 SYQUEST 88Mb Standard 5.25" Syquest Drive Only... **£263** (£309)

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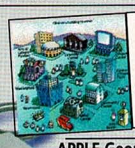
US Robotics Sportster Modems:
Mac 'n' Fax - 14400bps **£119** (£140)
288 V34 - 28800bps **£179** (£210)

Supra 288 Fax Modem
Alpha numeric display, fast 28800 bps, cables, full manual NON BABT. **£189** (£222)

Motorola 3400 - V34, 28800bps Professional Solution
Communication Software, Easy Install animated Mac software, Fax Software, FREE Compuserve 1 Month Access, Manual, Auto Selects fastest available line speed, Online Help Screen, Two Year Warranty - MAC USER BEST BUY, July '95!
Motorola 3400 Pro **£179** (£210)

Global Village TelePort Platinum 28800bps
£249 (£293)
Phone GH for details of other Global Village Modems in this great range at great prices



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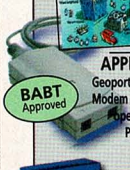

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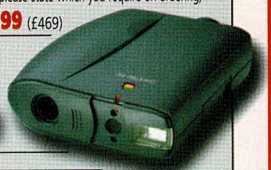

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New Product

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100Mb/Cartridge, 14p/Mb, Compact & Portable, **£136** (£160)
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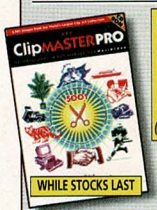

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BY PHONE: We'll help with any queries and when you're ready to order we accept Visa, Mastercard, Access, Switch, Connect, Delta and Lombard Creditcharge (most 'store cards' are Lombard Creditcharge and we happily accept them).

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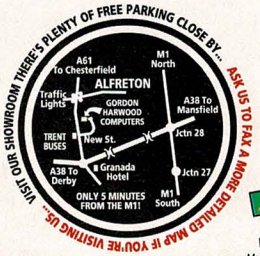

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* see below

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Model	Resolution (dpi) Optical	Max	Software	Price
GT 6500	300	1200	Photoshop LE & Omnipage Direct	£449 (£528)
GT 6500	300	1200	Full Photoshop	£629 (£739)
GT 8500	400	1600	Photoshop LE & Omnipage Direct	£569 (£669)
GT 8500	400	1600	Full Photoshop	£779 (£915)
GT 9000	600	2400	Photoshop LE & Omnipage Direct	£689 (£810)
GT 9000	600	2400	Full Photoshop	£879 (£1033)

Epson Transparency Adaptor for... 6000/6500/8000/8500 or 9000 Models £418 (£491)

(Please quote which scanner the adaptor is for when ordering)

EPSON WARRANTY: Epson Scanners include CUSP, 1st year on-site REPLACEMENT from distributor 'Customer Satisfaction Programme'

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at last provides a reliable way to manage YOUR paperwork... from business documents and reports, to product literature, even press clippings etc - there's virtually no material LapCAT can't handle. You know the feeling when your desk is full of paperwork that you just haven't had time to file - well, now you quickly and simply scan it all into the Epson LapCAT and retrieve it at will. Utilising the XEROX DESKTOP DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SUITE you will be able to... • FILE ELECTRONICALLY - Scan, Store and Retrieve on demand • HANDLE TEXT/GRAPHICS - LapCAT will automatically segment material into Copy, Photographs, Business Diagrams etc. as a file system • AUTOFEED - 10 documents upto A4 will feed/scan (inc. business cards • UTILISE TEXTBRIDGE - Xerox OCR Software (Optical Character Recognition) and then if you...

- ADD A FAX MODEM - You have a Personal Fax/EMAIL Generator
- ADD A PRINTER - You have a Personal Desktop Copier

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OR JUST... £1.57 PER WEEK (When Spending Over £750♦)

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Connection Kit - Mac	£51 (£60)
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Leather Carrycase - 100/Original Message Pad	£34 (£40)
Leather Carrycase - 110/120	£42 (£50)
Battery Pack Wall Recharger including Battery - 100	£34 (£40)
Mains Charge Station inc. Batt. -110/120	£47 (£56)
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Tapworks	£51 (£60)
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LOTS MORE NEWTON SOFTWARE AVAILABLE - PHONE GH!

INCLUDES A FREE CABLE

PostScript Software option available soon for Stylus XL and A4 PRO

FREE FONTS with ALL Epson Printers See Page 4 for details ONLY FROM GH!

WHILE STOCKS LAST

GREAT QUALITY INKJET PRINTING ON A3 PAPER

STYLUS PRO XL £1399 (£1643.83 inc. VAT)

OR JUST... £11.07 PER WEEK (When Spending Over £750♦)

NEW LOW PRICE!!!

GH have secured stocks of the exciting NEW EPSON STYLUS PRO XL inkjet printer which boasts an incredible 720 x 720dpi maximum resolution. Not only that, but output can be A3 PLUS BLEED! This is the ultimate inkjet Proofing Device - Ask GH for more details. •A3 PLUS BLEED •720 X 720dpi QUALITY HIGH RESOLUTION •EASYCHANGE TRICOLOUR/BLACK CARTRIDGES •BUILT IN SHEET FEEDER •INCLUDES SERIAL CABLE TO YOUR MAC - FREE •ETHERNET AVAILABLE

NEW EPSON STYLUS PRO A4 COLOUR INKJET PRINTER

A4 version of the above with a similar specification... •EASYCHANGE TRICOLOUR/BLACK CARTRIDGES •BUILT IN SHEET FEEDER •A4 PAPER SIZE •720 X 720dpi QUALITY HIGH RESOLUTION •INCLUDES SERIAL CABLE - FREE •PIEZO FINE DOT •EPSON MICROWEAVE TECHNOLOGY •ETHERNET AVAILABLE

NEW LOW PRICE!!! £639 (£751)

EPSON STYLUS A4 COLOUR INKJET PRINTER

Quality inkjet printing at 720dpi with the EPSON STYLUS working with A4 sizes. Inc. FREE cable

PRICE CRASH! PHONE FOR DETAILS

TI LASER TONERS AVAILABLE NOW!

FREE FONTS with TI Printers - See Page 4 for details ONLY FROM GH!

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TEXAS 600dpi LASER

FROM... £599 (£703.83 inc. VAT)

OR JUST... £4.74 PER WEEK (When Spending Over £750♦)

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS MICROLASER 600 & PRO 600 features...

- A4 Paper Size • Fast 5ppm (600)/8ppm (600 Pro)
- PCL 5 Emulation • RISC Processor • 250 Sheet Paper Tray • Autosensing for MAC or IBM Compatibles • True 600 x 600 dpi Res. • Adobe Postscript Level 2
- Optional Sheet Feeder for various Paper, Labels, Envelopes, Transparencies etc.)
- 2 or 4Mb RAM (max 10Mb) - 600 • 3Mb RAM (max 22Mb) - 600 Pro

**Both the 600 (2Mb) & 600 Pro incorporate a RAM BOOSTER* allowing many 4Mb files to be output even with 2Mb RAM. Please note that 600dpi print files are FOUR TIMES the size of equivalent 300dpi print files FOR ALL PRINTERS - GH therefore still recommend that whilst 2Mb is adequate for WP etc., 4Mb or more will extend the capabilities for large graphic output files etc. at 600dpi.*

TI Microlaser 600 Model...	Price
Microlaser 600 with 2Mb RAM + RAM BOOSTER*	£599 (£704)
Microlaser 600 with 4Mb RAM	£725 (£852)
2Mb RAM Upgrade	£145 (£171)
MICROLASER 600 PRO Including 3Mb RAM + RAM BOOSTER*	£850 (£999)

THE FASTEST WAY TO GET PAPER INTO YOUR MAC!

PAPERPORT FOR JUST... £319 (£374.83 inc. VAT)

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ALLOWS ELECTRONIC STICKY NOTES, LINES, ARROWS AND TEXT TO BE ADDED TO YOUR DOCUMENTS. CAN AUTO MOVE SCANNED DOCUMENTS INTO YOUR FAVOURITE PROGRAMS TOO!

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- FLEXIBLE - Scans everything from a business card to newspaper cuttings - including photographs
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Leaf a scitex company scitex

UK DEMONSTRATIONS... Call GH for details!

New Product

Captures an image at 2700 x 3400 (26Mb) resolution in just 3 minutes (33MHz Quadra 950. Great quality output even at A4 size.

INCLUDES 35mm SLIDE ADAPTOR!

- Ideal for Graphic Artists, Designers, In-House publishers, Service Bureaux, Newspaper/Magazine art departments etc. that need to cut out the waiting time for their Photographic requirements... Now YOU control the imaging schedule - in a quick & easy way.
- Cut scan times. Get transparencies/photos directly into your Mac.

DIGITAL ELECTRONIC PHOTO SCANNER/CAMERA

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The NEW... LEAF LUMINA from SCITEX is a revolutionary 2700 X 3400 resolution full colour imaging product designed to bring production quality photographic images onto the desktop. You can use the Lumina with standard photographic accessories such as a tripod, copy stand, studio lights, lens filters/gels etc. to capture not just flat artwork, but also 3 DIMENSIONAL OBJECTS/SCENES too! Lumina is supplied with its own 50mm lens and also accepts 'off the shelf' standard Nikon fitting 35mm SLR Camera lenses for real versatility. Operation is really simple, Arrange your 'still life' items and light them etc. and Lumina will input via your Macs SCSI interface. The picture will preview/update on your Mac monitor as the image progresses! IT'S AS EASY AS THAT!

- Includes Lumina Software consisting of 2 Photoshop Plug-Ins
- Full focusing facilities for total creative control • Full MAC screen previews at 72dpi on a 19" monitor in around 20 secs.
- Use to Scan Artwork & Transparencies (35mm to 6 x 7cm) too.

THE COST EFFECTIVE WAY TO GET QUALITY IMAGES INTO MACS!

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HOT PRODUCT 1994

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Personal Computer World HIGHLY COMMENDED

PC WORLD

PC MAGAZINE EDITORS' CHOICE

MACWORLD MW EDITORS' CHOICE

Publish impact AWARDS '94

Model	Resolution (dpi) Optical	Max	Transp. Adaptor	Photoshop	Price
VISTA T630	600 x 300	4800	✘	✘+	£279 (£328)
VISTA T630	600 x 300	4800	✘	LE+	£299 (£351)
VISTA T630	600 x 300	4800	✔	FULL+	£799 (£939)
VISTA S8	800 x 400	6400	✘	LE+	£539 (£633)
VISTA S8	800 x 400	6400	✘	FULL+	£699 (£821)
VISTA S8	800 x 400	6400	✔	FULL+	£979 (£1150)
UC 1260	1200 x 600	9600	✘	LE+	£649 (£763)
UC 1260	1200 x 600	9600	✘	FULL+	£789 (£927)
UC 1260	1200 x 600	9600	✔	FULL+	£1099 (£1291)
GEMINI	800 x 800	9600	✘	LE+	£799 (£939)
GEMINI New Product	800 x 800	9600	✘	FULL+	£899 (£1056)
GEMINI	800 x 800	9600	✔	FULL+	£1239 (£1456)
POWERLOOK	1200x600	9600	✘	FULL+	£1679 (£1973)
POWERLOOK	1200x600	9600	✔	FULL+	£1895 (£2227)
MIRAGE A3 New Product	1600 x 800	9600	✔	FULL+	£5999 (£7049)

+Include MagicSCAN & MagicMATCH Software
+Include VistaSCAN Software

GH OMNIPAGE SOFTWARE OPTION... Buy Omnipage with ANY Umax Scanner from GH and pay JUST... £45 (£53)

VISTA S8...

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GENUINE UK UNITS... ALL GH UMAX PRODUCTS COME WITH 1 YEAR ON-SITE WARRANTY IF SOURCED IN THE UK. GREY IMPORTS DO NOT CARRY THIS OFFICIAL WARRANTY.

Transparency Adaptors (please quote Umax scanner model when ordering)	£422 (£499)
50 Sheet Document Feeder for Vistas	£379 (£445)

UK DEMONSTRATIONS AVAILABLE FOR UMAX POWERLOOK SCANNERS - See just how good the results really are from this great scanner!!! - Call GH for details -

All listed prices are what YOU PAY, and there are NO HIDDEN EXTRAS. Prices are correct at time of going to press (Pack details may vary from time to time). Offers and Services are subject to availability and to being the latest advertised products, packs and prices. Please note goods are not supplied on a trial basis. E&OE.

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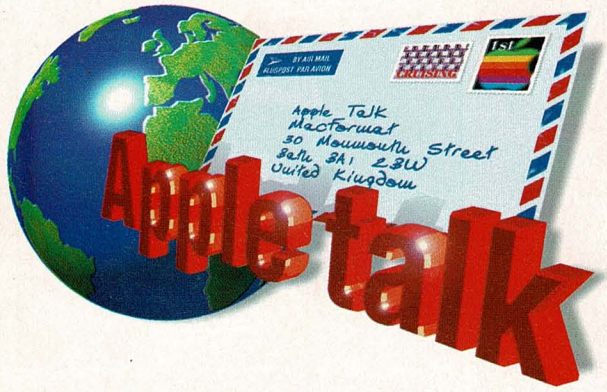


Share your thoughts and get a binder you can keep all to yourself! Write to Alex Summersby, AppleTalk, MACFORMAT, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW.

IN A BIND?

Every letter and postcard published on these pages wins its sender an exclusive MACFORMAT binder. But will we select yours to be published, hmm? Alternatively, you can turn to page 125 and order your own binder, thus eliminating the worry, doubt and uncertainty in your life.

If it's good to talk, it's great to write, so share your joys and disappointments, your news and views, your cash and cheques, with us...

Mac on Net shock

As an ordinary mortal who's recently gone through the trauma of connecting my LCIII to the Net via Demon, I thought one or two of my discoveries might save hassle for others.

1. It's not as hard as some would have you believe – most of your problems will centre on configuring a vicious little critter called MacTCP, but follow your service provider's instructions to the letter and you'll be okay, probably.
2. I found my 4Mb of RAM borderline for Net applications. An extra 4Mb makes life much easier, though you could get by without it.
3. Demon suggest a horrid, unwieldy combination of three different programs to enable you to read news offline and thus save telephone bills, but *NewsHopper* from SW15 Software does the job brilliantly for £39. I only wish I'd known about it earlier.

Ironically, given the user-friendliness of the Mac, it's a bit of a pig to set up for comms, but once set up, its potential is huge. How about a layperson's guide plus an overview of the software available and the vagaries of MacTCP?

Jon Doran
via FutureNet

Keep following our continuing Internet basics series! You can reach SW15 Software on 0181 813 6027, or e-mail them at ***nh@sw15.demon.co.uk***

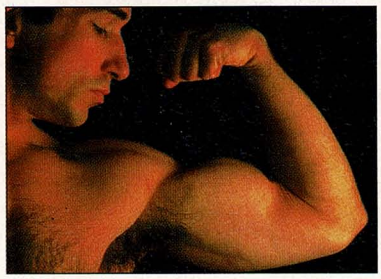
Taking the Mick

My name is Michele Molino, and I am the person used as a model for Photostetics' CD *Strength*, which was reviewed in MACFORMAT 28.

Your technical comments were impressive and I thank you for the compliments about my shape. Too bad that such a good review was obscured by an inappropriate remark ('snigger') about my name, which in this context was not relevant to the discussion.

I am an Italian and my first name is very common in my country. Michele (Mee-ke`-le) means Michael or Mike in English and its feminine equivalent in Italian is Michela. This is my real name and not a professional substitute. On the CD booklet, it appears in full – Michele Molino. If it had been used properly, MACFORMAT's readers would have understood that Michele is a foreign name and not the English feminine version of Michael.

Michele Molino
via FutureNet



Faced with a CD full of pictures of a physique as magnificent as this, would you feel inadedquate?

What we wrote was: '[the CD] contains 75 high-resolution images of a hunking model flexing his muscles... Just to cheer up any male who's feeling a little inadequate, the accompanying thumbnail booklet tells us that his name is Michele (snigger).' This was meant humorously, as if spoken in the persona of a jealous (English, ethnocentric) male. We apologise for causing any offence.

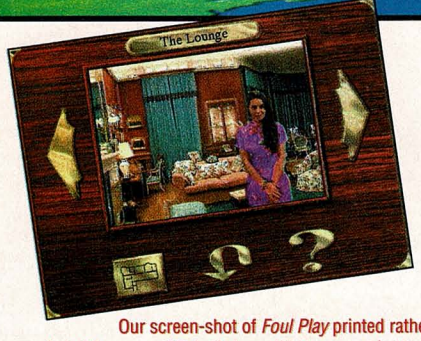
Coming attractions...

Here are some suggestions for items I'd like to see included on future MACFORMAT CD-ROMs:

1. QuickTime movies of Apple commercials – all of them, but in particular the '1984' Super Bowl commercial.
2. 'Gutenberg Project': you could follow the example of your sister magazine *CD-ROM Today*, which has already included some full-length novels on its CDs. Do it systematically, a few titles every month.
3. *Star Trek* stuff – images, sounds, texts, anything that the copyright laws and Paramount allow you to releae.

Judging from the success of *Star Trek*

A FAIR SHAKE FOR FOUL PLAY?



Our screen-shot of *Foul Play* printed rather poorly in MACFORMAT 29. Let's hope this turns out better...

I am writing about MACFORMAT's review of our game *Foul Play*. I respect your reviewers' right to make any comment on a game, provided they do not misrepresent an important fact which has a severe impact on the playability of the game.

I am afraid that in reviewing *Foul Play*, your reviewer, having correctly identified the main features of the game, completely failed to realise that, with some *4,700 possible solutions* (not 'responses'), it is impossible to 'guess' the solution with *any* likelihood of success. In fact his final paragraph completely undermines the main principle of the game, which is that, like a board game, it should be returned to again and again by its owner.

If Mr Hawkins guessed the solution even once, after a few probing questions, as he says, I would be extremely surprised. Not one person, in hundreds of test games played by focus groups in the US and UK, has yet succeeded in 'guessing' the solution to a game at any level, least of all the harder ones, where players are required to identify which room – out of 14, which weapon – out of eight, which suspect – out of six, and which time period – out of seven!

I also find it hard to understand why he does not appear to like the graphics in this game, rating them at 64%. The graphics, for once, are *real* and fulfill a real function, in that clues are hidden in a real environment. How much better graphics can you get than photographic realism?

Although it is a less crucial point, I would also take issue with Mr Hawkins on his point that 'there is too much hanging around for the other players in between goes'. Our experience is that the other players are 'glued' to the screen because they want to see where the current player is clicking, in order to be able to find/eliminate locations which do or do not hold clues, so that they do not waste time in their turns. They are also trying to work on their deductions in order to win the game. We have been told that, if anything, there is too much for the other players to do!

Hon. William Beckett
The Armchair Travel Co Ltd, London SW6

We are happy to clarify the fact that there are over 4,000 possible solutions in all. Perhaps our reviewer is psychic, but he reckons he could guess – or, if you prefer, deduce – the correct answer after eight or nine 'probing questions', which he regards as 'only a few' in this context. We admit that if he'd been specific, people could have decided for themselves. We'd like to repeat our conclusion that Foul Play *is 'a reasonable conversion of the board game, and features some lovely little touches', and our overall rating of 73% puts it firmly in the 'well worthwhile' category.*

In 1984, Apple introduced the Macintosh – in an advert so effective, they only had to show it once.

CD-ROMs, 'Trekkers' seem to be a reasonably large percentage of computer (and Mac) users.

Cesare Cioni
Villanova Bo, Italy

The '1984' commercial – the very first Mac advert, screened at the 1984 Super Bowl in the US – is on the World Wide Web at ***http://wintermute.unh.edu:70/1/Movies***
Would anyone else like books on the CD?

Suggestion box

You asked for suggestions for System 8, so here's an obvious one based on all the complaints about memory requirements for games. At the moment, if you hold down **[shift]** at startup, Extensions are turned off. How about being able to hold down **[control] [shift]** to turn the Finder off as well, and instead start a minimal launcher which just offers the facilities to run a single program? The **Open** dialogue could default to a new **Games** folder in the System Folder into which you could drag aliases (or have games installers do it automatically), and you've got a dedicated games machine as well as a Mac!

There's no margin in memory sales these days, so Apple could use an option like this to knock at least a meg (two-plus for a PowerMac!) off the minimum memory purchase for people who just want games and a bit of word processing on the side – a significant market segment, methinks...

David Lockwood
Leamington Spa, Warwicks

Any more ideas for what Apple should add in System 8? Send your wish list to 'Get it right this time' at the address opposite.

Systematic rip-off?

I am a student, studying for my A-levels. Recently I discovered that my System had become corrupted and so had my three backups. Being a Performa owner I did not get the original System disks with my computer, so I turned to my friendly, helpful local Apple Centre. After I'd been passed around many different people on the telephone, they finally said they would ring me back. After about three hours they did finally call back to say that yes, they could copy a set, if I provided the disks.

'Hang on,' they added. 'There is a small charge: one hour's labour.'

For the 20 minutes (approximately) that it would take to copy the required disks, they wanted to charge me – wait for it! – £38.50. What do they think I am, last week's National Lottery winner? I won't even get a set of *original* System disks!

Is there intelligent life out there, or do they think that everybody who owns a Mac also has a bank balance in excess of the gross national debt? Come on, sort it out and start charging students a respectable rate for a task that a hamster could carry out.

Andrew Richardson
(A Disgruntled Hamster)
Bungay, East Anglia

You didn't tell *them you were a student, did you? That's obviously where you went wrong* – nobody *likes students. Besides, how could* three *backups all have become corrupted as well? Probably all your own fault anyway. (See what I mean?) But yes, seriously, Apple's policy of not supplying System disks with Performas was, shall we say, short-sighted.*

The shock of the new

Wow! New PowerMacs – 9500, 8500, 7500 and 7200. Great! So they replace the 8100, 7100 and 6100. But what's this? No new Mac in the 6100's case? Oh dear, no upgrade for the 6100, methinks. I didn't mind too much when Apple upped the 6100 to 66MHz after I had bought mine (the PowerClip helped) but this is very disappointing.

Would somone remind Apple to support those who supported them by buying the original PowerMacs and helped to get them established? At this rate it looks like my 6100 will be redundant within a year. Is there any chance that Apple (or anybody else) will bring out some sort of upgrade for my Power-but-not-quite-top-of-the-line-Mac?

Paul Briscoe
via FutureNet

Cheer up! Early reports indicate that the new PowerMacs are having compatibility problems, in conspicuous contrast to the first PowerMac models (ie yours). Watch for a full road-test in MACFORMAT *soon.* **MF**

Two more MACFORMAT binder winners: 'Breakfast in Fur, 1936' by Meret Oppenheim, from the New York Museum of Modern Hoaxes – sorry, I mean 'Art', sent in by Bruce Shayler of London N10; and how your old Classic could help keep you fit (see? It *does* have its uses), from Jan Van Gysel of Schoten in Belgium. Remember, whenever you write to MACFORMAT or enter a competition, an eye-catching postcard could win *you* a binder too!

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■ Our address for letters is on page 40 – the shorter your letter, the better its chances of being printed. Longer letters may be published in our regular 'Talking Point' section (on page 140 this month). If you'd like a letter included in 'Readers' Corner' on our CD-ROM, make sure it contains no defamation or obscenity, then send it in as a *TeachText* document on a disk marked 'MACFORMAT Readers' Corner'. Include your name and address, and note that we can't return your disk.

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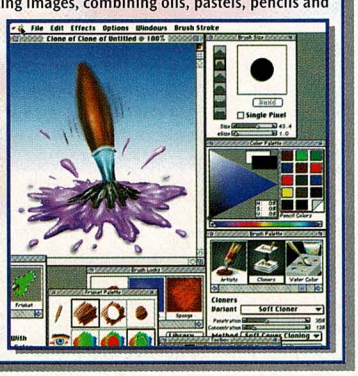

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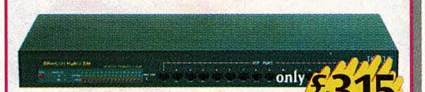

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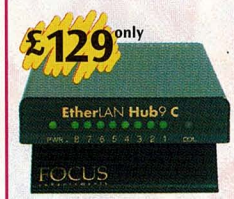

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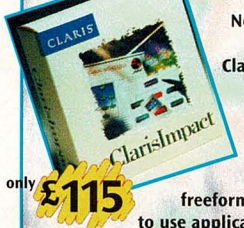

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LLVCD	**Le Louvre** (tour the fomous Paris Gallery)	£35.00
MCBT	**Macbeth** (the Scottish Play)	£65.00
MICD	**Musical Instruments** (Microsoft's excellent entry)	£39.00
OEDCD	**Oxford English Dictionary** (the whole thing on CD ROM)	£425.00
REDCD	**Red Shift** (superb astronomy program)	£49.00
SHCD	**Shakespeare Complete Works** (at your fingertips)	£19.00
STTM	**Star Trek Interactive Tech Manual** (tour de Enterprise)	£29.00
TLFA	**Time/Life Astrology** (astrology primer)	£19.00
WRPA	**Warplanes** (an interactive history)	£45.00
MWGCD	**Wine Guide** (Microsoft's, er, well... guide to wine)	£35.00

EDUCATIONAL

ARTT	**Arthur's Teacher Trouble** (interactive story book)	£29.00
ARTB	**Arthur's Birthday** (more Arthur)	£29.00
CIRCD	**Circus** (learn while playing with clowns and animals)	£29.00
DINO	**Dinosaurs** (the "must have" CD of the year)	£45.00
GRME	**Grandma and Me** (delightful kids story)	£29.00
HHHS	**Harry and the Haunted House** (the new best seller)	£29.00
BDWH	**How Your Body Works** (home reference)	£29.00
KDPCD	**KidPix Studio** (KidPix plus animation)	£35.00
LFCD	**Learn to Speak French** (aah... learn to speak French)	£115.00
MWCD	**Math Workshop** (math tutoring 5-12 age group)	£34.00
PAWCD	**P.A.W.S.** (hysterical dog's eye view of the world)	£25.00
PTWL	**Peter and the Wolf** (interactive fairy tale)	£35.00
RUFF	**Ruff's Bone** (adventures with Ruff the dog)	£29.00
TRTH	**Tortoise and the Hare** (the epic race)	£29.00
UHBCD	**Ultimate Human Body** (Dorling Kindersly's one)	£45.00
WLJCD	**Wallobee Jack/Lost Leonardo** (interactive kids cartoon)	£19.00

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UP TO 12 YEARS

AMAN	**Amazing Animation** (cool animation for kids)	£45.00
FNAR	**Fine Artist** (great fun paint program)	£35.00
KDTM	**KidsTime** (5 learning programs for the 3 to 7 year old)	£29.00
KDMH	**KidsMath** (takes kids from counting to arithmetic)	£29.00
KDPX	**KidPix II** (wonderful paint program with sound effects)	£29.00
LPCK	**Launch Pad** (animated desktop, secures your files)	£25.00
NMBM	**NumberMaze** (award winning arithmetic tutor)	£39.00
RDMZ	**ReadingMaze** (letter recognition to sentences)	£35.00
SPLX	**Spelunx** (brilliant game-like learning environment)	£29.00

FROM 10 YEARS UP

CRWR	**Creative Writer** (DTP for kids)	£35.00
DCFM	**Decimals & Fractions Maze** (helps older kids)	£35.00
TYEN	**Typing Instructor** (good training from basics to touch)	£25.00
VYGR	**Voyager Astronomy** (fascinating desktop planetarium)	£105.00
WIWD	**Where in World is Carmen DeLuxe** (geography based)	£29.00

PROGRAMMING

HYPC	**HyperCard 2.3** (new version, more power)	£95.00
CDWB	**Metrowerks Code Warrior Bronze** (680x0 compiler)	£65.00
CDWG	**Metrowerks Code Warrior Gold** (PowerMac compiler)	£275.00
ZCP	**Symantec C++** (best object oriented programming tool)	£295.00
SPCD	**SuperCard 2.0** (more powerful than HyperCard)	£299.00
THKC	**Think C 6.0** (the leading Mac app development tool)	£185.00
THKP	**Think Pascal 4.0** (excellent developer level compiler)	£165.00
FTBS	**FutureBasic** (far and away the best Basic for Mac)	£85.00

MUSIC

BMTL	**EZ Starter Kit** (MIDI interface, EZ Vision, book)	£175.00
PRMC	**Practica Musica** (teaches music theory and ear training)	£75.00
QBSL	**Cubase Light** (entry level sequencer and csore printing)	£79.00
SONG	**SongWorks** (interactive music composition)	£65.00
STDI	**Super Studio Session** (8 voice composer and player)	£69.00
MDIN	**MIDI Interface**	£45.00

UTILITIES

PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCERS, FILE & DISK MANAGEMENT

EASE	**At Ease 3.0** (secure Finder replacement)	£35.00
INVU	**Conflict Catcher 3.0** (INIT manager and more)	£55.00
CDU	**CDU** (excellent collection of Desktop utilities)	£49.00
NDBP	**DiskDoubler Pro** (DiskDoubler,AutoDoubler,CopyDoubler)	£65.00
FTF	**First Things First** (brilliant alarms, reminders, to do's)	£25.00
HDTKP	**Hard Disk Toolkit** (Personal Edition)	£59.00
HDTK	**Hard Disk Toolkit** (the best formatter and checker)	£125.00
MCTA	**MacTools Pro 4.0** (disk safety and protection utility)	£79.00
NUTD	**Now Up-To-Date** (calendar and reminder system)	£65.00
NUM	**Norton Utilities 3.1** (best selling utilities package)	£79.00
NOWU	**Now Utilities 5.0** (suite of essential utilities)	£65.00
POPF	**PopUpFolder** (view folder contents with submenus)	£30.00
QCKY	**QuicKeys 3.1** (macro maker, time saver utility)	£85.00
RAMD	**RAMDoubler** (actually doubles your available RAM!)	£49.00
SPED	**SpeedDoubler** (greatly improves performance)	£49.00
SFDL	**Stuffit DeLuxe** (famous file compression program)	£59.00
SUIT	**Suitcase 2.14** (manage your font menus)	£45.00
WNWT	**WindoWatch** (logs time usage of windows)	£85.00

BACKUP & VIRUS PROTECTION

OPDT	**DeskTape** (treats DAT as if it were a 2Gb drive)	£249.00
PRSB	**Personal Backup** (best value backup on the market)	£35.00
REDX	**Redux Deluxe 2.51** (powerful floppy backup)	£49.00
RTSP	**Retrospect 2.1i** (most sophisticated archival backup)	from £145.00
SAM	**SAM 4.0** (Symantec's anti virus utility)	£45.00
VIRX	**Virex 5.3** (best virus tracer & eradicator of all)	£60.00

SECURITY

DKGD	**DiskGuard** (control access to your hard drive)	£69.00
FLGD	**FileGuard** (serious protection for specific files)	£145.00
MAD#	**MacAdministrator** (secure all Macs on your site)	from £22.00
MPR1	**MacPrefect** (secures most aspects of the Finder)	£30.00

SCREEN SAVERS

AFDK	**After Dark 3.0** (famous screen saver with many modules)	£25.00
DSNY	**Disney Screen Saver** (simply magical)	£27.00
STAB	**Ultimate Star Trek** (screen saver and posters bundle)	£39.00
LTSS	**Looney Tunes** (famous cartoon screensaver)	£25.00
DRTY	**Underware** (humorous screen saver)	£25.00

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R20C	**d2 200Mb Syquest Drive (inc cart)**	£395.00
D2128	**d2 128Mb Optical Drive (inc cart)**	£389.00
X231	**IBM/Xyratex 230Mb Optical Drive (inc cart)**	£475.00
D2DF	**d2 4/8Gb DAT Drive**	£885.00
CDRN	**Reno Portable CD ROM Drive**	£245.00
NOM1	**44Mb Nomai Syquest Compatible**	£26.00
R45C	**44Mb Syquest Cartridge**	£32.00
R80C	**88Mb Syquest Cartridge**	£36.00
R20C	**200Mb Syquest Cartridge**	£59.00
R12C	**128Mb Optical Cartridge**	£25.00
R23C	**230Mb Optical Cartridge**	£35.00

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ZIPA	**Iomega ZIP Drive**	£149.00
EZ13	**Syquest EZ135 Drive**	£165.00

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2)	SIMC2	✔**Sim City 2000** (design and run your own city)	£29.00
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6)	PROP2	✔**Prince of Persia II** (more and better, can you resist?)	£29.00
7)	SHNG	➢**Shanghai II** (great graphics, addictive brain teaser)	£17.00
8)	BRDG	➢**Bridge** (from novice to advanced playing levels)	£24.00
9)	LEM3	✔**Lemmings/Oh No! More Lemmings Bundle**	£22.00
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11)	CHCH	✔**Chess Champion** (best Chess game)	£25.00
12)	ERIC	➢**Eric's Ultimate Solitaire** (a dozen patience games)	£35.00
13)	CRQ2	✔**Crystal Quest 2** (Britain's favourite game)	£22.00
14)	F18H	➢**F/A18 Hornet** (from the creators of Hellcats)	£49.00
15)	ITG10	✔**10 Intelligent Strategy Games** (backgammon...)	£29.00

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DM2	✔**Doom II** (you may have heard of this one)	£35.00
PGA3	✔**PGA Golf III** (more challenging games)	£35.00
FSHB	✔**Flashback** (Nintendo like adventure shoot-em-up)	£25.00
ISHD	➢**Ishido** (Chinese strategy game)	£22.00
TRZL	✔**Triazzle** (brain teaser from Berkeley Systems)	£19.00

KEY ✔ works on most Macs, ➢ Colour Macs only.

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BEST-SELLING BOOKS

1)	BK4075	**Mac Bible 5th Edition**	£29.95
2)	BK5010	**Internet Starter Kit Mac**	£27.50
3)	BK2180	**Macworld Photoshop V3.0 Bible**	£38.99
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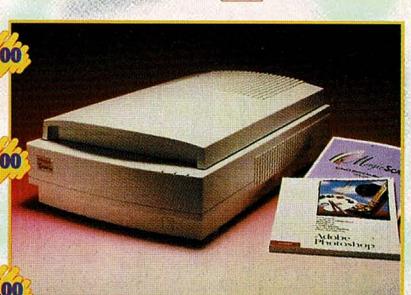

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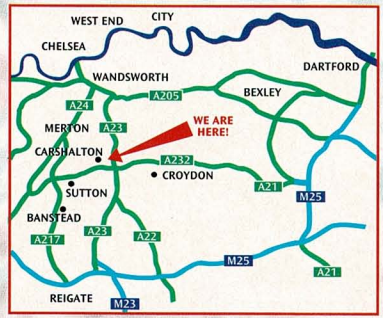

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MIKB	PlainTalk Microphone (AVs/PowerMacs)	£25.00
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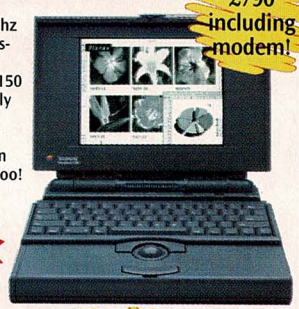

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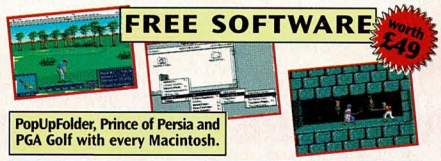

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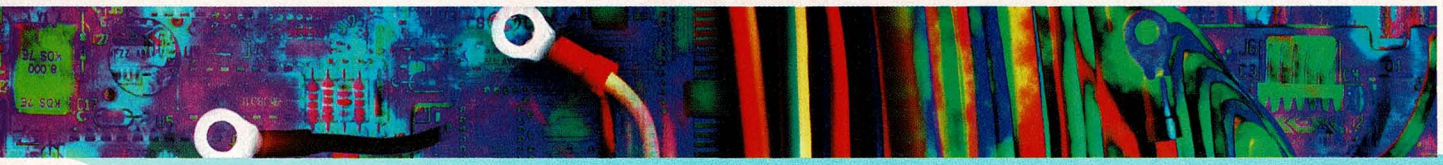
Future Publishing

Publishing made the Mac a success – most of the books, newspapers and magazines you read are designed and laid out on Macs. But the printed word is facing a possible extinction – because of new technology that computers like the Mac have made possible.

THE FUTURE FACE OF PUBLISHING

- CD: the new media – page 48: will CD magazines and books challenge their paper equivalents?
- Live and direct – page 50: the World Wide Web, how it works and what makes it special.
- Paperless publishing – page 52: the MACFORMAT guide to standalone document formats.
- *Acrobat 2* – page 54: Adobe plan to revolutionise the format with this powerful portable document creator.
- *Common Ground* – page 55: rival to *Acrobat*, and sold at a very reasonable price. So what's the catch?
- HTML authoring software – page 57: we round up the software that makes coding up your Web pages a cinch.
- Create a Web page – page 60: the tutorial that shows you exactly what you need and where to start.
- The big compo! Turn to page 63 *now* for a chance to win a fabulous Performa 5300, worth over £2,300!

Continued on next page



Johannes Gutenberg must be turning in his grave. In the 15th century, this man made popular the concept of typesetting – creating pages of text out of individual blocks of letters – and changed printing from a cottage industry to a global necessity.

Books, newspapers and magazines are such an essential part of all our lives that it's impossible to imagine life without them. But after centuries of relying on print as our main vehicle for information, an increasing number of people are looking beyond the printed word, towards the digital age.

Publishing isn't just big business; it's gargantuan. The European part of the industry alone was worth £62.7 billion in 1991 – that's how much money it took in sales and advertising – and a European Commission report expects this to grow to £102.8 billion by the turn of the century.

But this success isn't being achieved under the easiest of circumstances. The publishing industry, like many others, is waking up to some harsh realities – in this case, the fact that paper is not a limitless resource. A report for the OECD, an economic alliance of countries including the United States, many European countries, Australia and Japan, says that

Just Think from the United States is one of the new breed of magazines published on CD-ROM.

CD: the new media

The flexibility and capacity of CD-ROM makes it an ideal medium for distributing the new word.

Companies across the world are now exploring alternatives to paper, and are following one or both of two different avenues. The first is CD-ROM – books in particular are being placed onto discs so that you can read them on your Mac screen. The best-selling encyclopaedia in the world is now a CD-ROM: *Microsoft Encarta*, which was reviewed in MACFORMAT 29 (turn to page 125 if you missed that issue).

The attractions of CD-ROM are clear – you can store a huge amount on a single disc, which makes it cheaper to manufacture than its paper equivalent. You can get simple archive CD-ROMs for research, with a year's back issues of a newspaper, for example. And, more importantly, many publishers are starting to take advantage of CD-ROM to go beyond anything a book could offer, with text enlivened by video footage and animation – like the multimedia reference and education titles reviewed each issue in MACFORMAT.

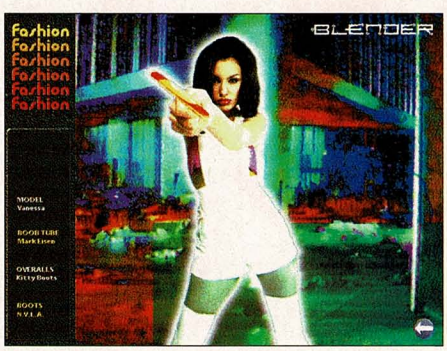
Now that there are enough people who own CD-ROM drives to make further experimentation possible, magazines are starting to appear. Most of these are lifestyle titles covering the arts and fashion – attempts to appeal to the media-literate consumer who's most likely to try something new.

File
Folktales
Introduction
Little Red Riding Hood
Folktale Scholarship
Disney's "Snow White"
Myths
Legends
Marchen
Beauty and the Beast
Overlapping of Forms
Other Folktale Forms
The Role of Folktale
Folktales, generic term for the various kinds of narrative prose literature found in the oral traditions of the world. One of the many forms of folklore, folktales are heard and remembered, and they are subject to various alterations in the course of retellings. As they are diffused (transmitted through a culture), some folktales may pass in and out of written literature (for example, the "Rip Van Winkle" story), and some stories of literary origin may cross over into oral tradition (for example, the anecdote about George Washington and the cherry tree). Nevertheless, an essential trait of folktales–and all folk literature–is their diffusion, and their passage from one generation to another, by word of mouth.
The principal kinds of folktales are myths (see Mythology), legends, and Märchen, or fairy tales. In common usage, these terms are interchangeable; they refer to any highly

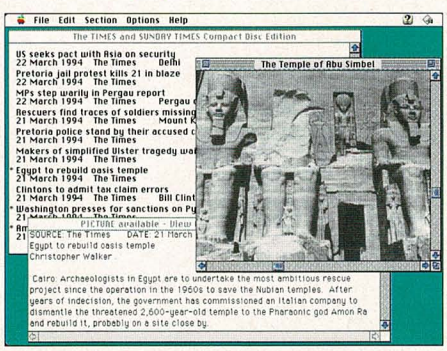
In only a few years, *Encarta* has become the best-selling encyclopaedia in the world – but it's not a book...

What's the catch?

While you can expect some fascinating titles to appear in the near future, it's unlikely that CD-ROM magazines will grow to challenge their paper equivalents for some time yet. There just aren't enough people with CD-ROM-equipped computers who can read them, and the technology is likely to be out of date in a few years in any case (although the new drives being developed for CD-ROM's successor should be able to run the discs you've bought). The most potent argument against CD-ROM, though, is the flexibility of the second option open to publishers... the Internet.



Blender brings the gloss of lifestyle magazines to the digital age – an issue was reviewed in MACFORMAT 28.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The TIMES and SUNDAY TIMES Compact Disc Edition
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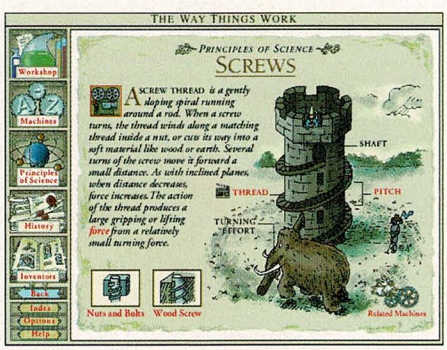
Egypt to rebuild oasis temple
21 March 1994 The Times
Clintons to admit tax claim errors
21 March 1994 The Times Bill Clint
Washington presses for sanctions on Py
PICTURE available - Bleur
SOURCE: The Times DATE: 21 March
Egypt to rebuild oasis temple
Christopher Walker
The Temple of Abu Simbel
Cairo Archaeologists in Egypt are to undertake the most ambitious rescue project since the operation in the 1960s to save the Nubian temples. After years of indecision, the government has commissioned an Italian company to dismantle the threatened 2,600-year-old temple to the Pharaonic god Amon Ra and rebuild it, probably on a site close by.

A year's worth of articles from *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* fit onto a single CD, and make index searching easy.


THE WAY THINGS WORK
Principles of Science
SCREWS
A SCREW THREAD is a gently sloping spiral running around a rod. When a screw turns, the thread winds along a matching thread inside a nut, or cuts its way into a soft material like wood or earth. Several turns of the screw move it forward a small distance. As with inclined planes, when distance decreases, force increases. The action of the thread produces a large gripping or lifting force from a relatively small turning force.
SHAFT
THREAD
PITCH
TURNING EFFORT
Workshop
A to Z Machines
Principles of Science
History
Inventors
Back
Index
Options
Help
Nuts and Bolts
Wood Screw
Related Machines

Titles like *The Way Things Work* adapt existing books, but add a level of involvement you'd never get in print.

demand for paper products from its members will grow from 150 million tonnes a year now to 200 million tonnes a year by 2010. But trees don't grow any faster, so if you want paper, you will have to prepared to pay for it – prices in Europe rose by 20% between 1993 and 1994.

Part of the reason you're not yet paying 20% more for your favourite magazines – like MACFORMAT – than you were last year is because there's been another trend at work. A transformation in printing has occurred, with typesetting methods (which are centuries old) giving way to the use of computers. And the Mac has played a critical role in the changes.

So it's the Mac's fault...

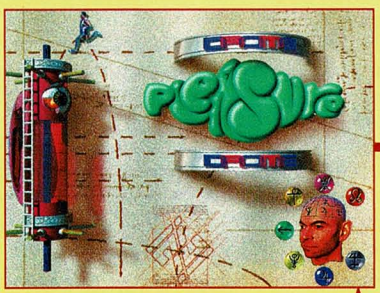
The Mac was the first computer to make popular the graphical user interface (GUI), the system of icons and menus we're now used to. The GUI meant more than a new way of using computer files – it also enabled you to see how your document looked before you printed it. Ten years ago, the combination of the Mac, *PageMaker*, and accurate printing at low cost using electronic fonts and laser printers brought about desktop publishing.

For a modern publisher, using computers to create your pages ready to send straight to an electronic printing system offers the best results for the best possible value. The price has been people – the 'Fortress Wapping' conflict between Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation and the trade unions in the 1980s was a graphic example of technology changing publishing. But the upheaval may only just be beginning. Now that the words you read are in electronic form almost until the moment they're printed onto paper, how much do we need paper?

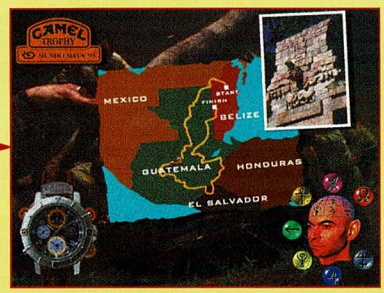
Continued on next page

INSIDE A CD-ROM MAGAZINE

An art gallery displays work created on computer by several artists.

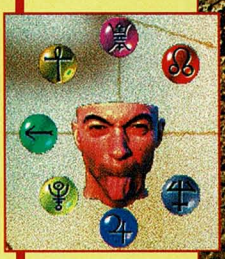


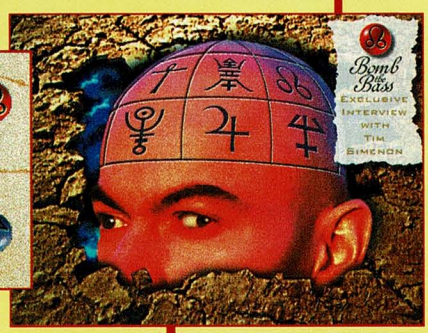
UnZip barely resembles a print magazine at times. Here you have to click on the running figure to see the article.



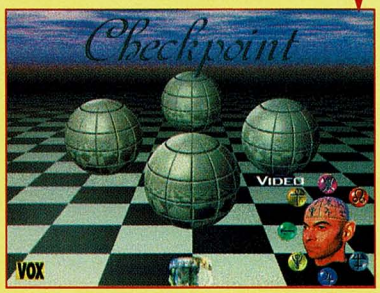
The travel section takes you on a guided tour of South America using photos and videos.

UnZip (rated 85% in MACFORMAT 28) is a vivid example of what magazines on CD-ROM can offer. To entice you into using it, the title incorporates sections based on well-known print publications like *NME* and *New Scientist*.

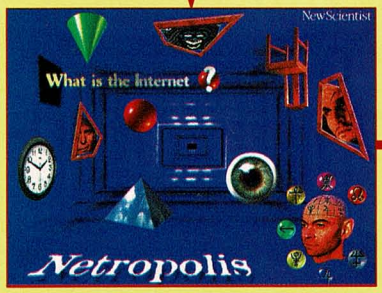




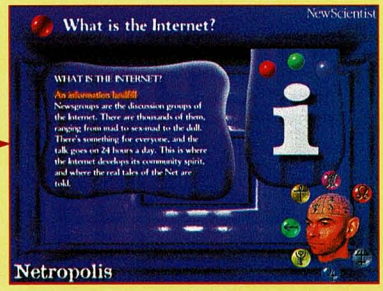
The contents page is an unorthodox combination of graphics and animation. *UnZip* is divided into six sections. The head (far left) reappears on every page, giving you access to any section at any point, or enabling you to move forward or backward within the article.



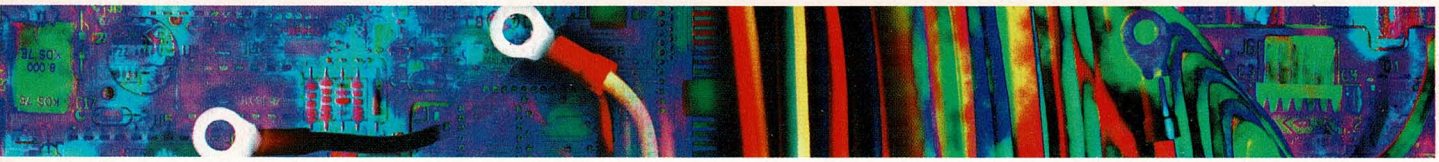
Reviews come under the *Vox* banner, but look nothing like the magazine versions.



The *New Scientist* area deals with the Internet. Click on each of the shapes to read something.



Ultimately, there isn't as much hard content in a CD-ROM article as you'd find in the print version.



Live and direct

The Internet, particularly the World Wide Web, is *the* area to watch for digital publishing developments.

The Internet has many uses, but for the publisher, the area with the most potential is the World Wide Web. It's the only part of the Net where you can view such a sophisticated combination of text and graphics on your screen, and as such it's the closest thing there is to an on-line magazine.

What makes the Web special is its ability to include links within each page, using an concept called hypertext. Click on a link with your mouse and you are taken to whichever point on the Web the page's creator has selected. You might go to another page within the same site, to another site based halfway round the world, or just to a different point on the same page.

Pages are stored on 'servers', which you can connect to with your Mac if you know the location of the page, or if there's a link to it on another page. A particular collection of pages on a server is called a site, and there are now 100,000 sites. Internet Solutions, who monitor the growth of the Web, reckon its size is doubling every two or three months, and should reach 500,000 sites by the end of the year.

The explosive growth of the Web is caused by companies testing the medium to see if it suits their needs. Its costs are lower than those of print and you can change your contents constantly – and the size of your magazine is limited only by how much space you have on your server.

But the Web's key advantage is that it's live. You can constantly update the contents of your magazine, so it's always topical, but – unlike a live TV programme, for example – your readers can view it whenever they wish. And they can communicate directly with you through e-mail to let you know what they think.

The equipment you need to get onto the Web is much less expensive than a CD-ROM setup, so the potential audience is bigger. And the nature of this equipment – a set of connections between thousands of computers – means that improvements like faster transmission speeds can be made without having to change the contents.

R&B riffs
Tony Skinner shows you how to add some rhythm to your blues...
We're going to learn one of the most popular rhythm riffs in rock music, as used by hundreds of R&B guitar players. Listen to the example (Soundbyte 1, part 1 - 728k) and you'll immediately recognise what I'm referring to.
The chord sequence shown (FIG 1, Soundbyte 1, part 2) is commonly called a '12 bar' - it's a repeating chord sequence with a predictable and often used progression. Listen to Chuck Berry's 'Johnny B Goode' or Stevie Ray's 'Cre
On to BRING IN THE PINKY
FIG 1

Future's *Total Guitar* tutorials have sound samples you can download to hear how you *should* sound.

Creating Web pages means getting to grips with a simple programming system called HTML (HyperText Markup Language). You take the text you want to appear on your page and add in codes that dictate how the final result will look. It sounds simple, and it is (see our how-to starting on page 60), but HTML programs generally lack the sophistication you expect if you're used to DTP programs.

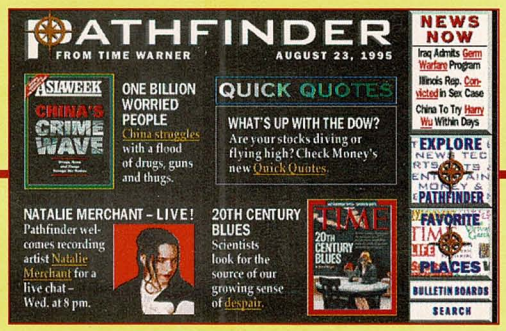
This is set to change in the next few months as software companies pick up on the Web boom to offer programs more specifically designed to give you HTML-writing features, or the option to 'translate' a document from your word processor or DTP program into HTML format automatically. Soon it won't matter that your page is being written in HTML, just like it's not important whether you use *Quark* or *PageMaker* – you'll only have to worry

JARGON BUSTER

The idea of hypertext has been around a long time, but has come into its own with the recent growth of the Web and digital publishing. The document text that appears on your Mac's screen has highlighted words or phrases; click on any of these and you'll be taken to a different point in the document.

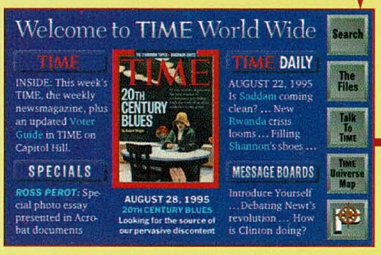
INSIDE A WEB MAGAZINE

Time Warner's *Pathfinder* is one of the biggest experiments in magazine publishing on the Web. It's an umbrella title for many other well-known publications. *Pathfinder* exploits the latest trends in Web graphics and portable documents.

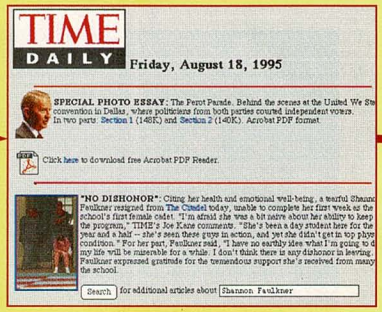

PATHFINDER
FROM TIME WARNER
AUGUST 23, 1995
NEWS NOW
Iraq Admits Germ Warfare Program
Illinois Rep. Convicted in Sex Case
China To Try Harry Wu Within Days
ASIAWEEK
CHINA'S CRIME WAVE
ONE BILLION WORRIED PEOPLE
China struggles with a flood of drugs, guns and thugs.
QUICK QUOTES
WHAT'S UP WITH THE DOW?
Are your stocks diving or flying high? Check Money's new Quick Quotes.
EXPLORE
PATHFINDER
FAVORITE PLACES
NATALIE MERCHANT – LIVE!
Pathfinder welcomes recording artist Natalie Merchant for a live chat – Wed. at 8 pm.
20TH CENTURY BLUES
Scientists look for the source of our growing sense of despair.
TIME
20TH CENTURY BLUES
BULLETIN BOARDS
SEARCH

The main screen for *Pathfinder* changes each day – you can choose whether to look at one of the suggested articles or go to a regular menu to see what else is on offer.

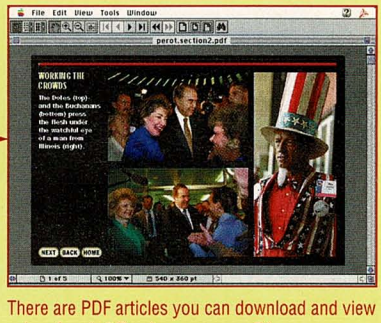
This menu enables you go straight to whichever subject area interests you most.


Welcome to TIME World Wide
Search
TIME
INSIDE: This week's TIME, the weekly newsmagazine, plus an updated Voter Guide in TIME on Capitol Hill.
TIME
20TH CENTURY BLUES
TIME DAILY
AUGUST 22, 1995
Is Saddam coming clean? ... New Rwanda crisis looms ... Filling Shannon's shoes ...
The Files
Talk To TIME
Time Universe Map
SPECIALS
MESSAGE BOARDS
ROSS PEROT: Special photo essay presented in Acrobat documents
AUGUST 28, 1995
20TH CENTURY BLUES
Looking for the source of our pervasive discontent
Introduce Yourself ... Debating Newt's revolution ... How is Clinton doing?

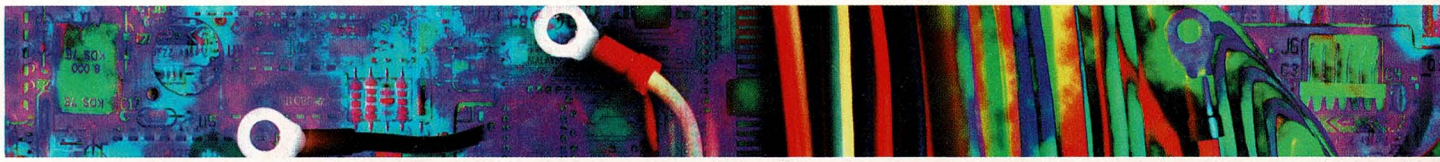
The *Time* magazine section reprints features from the current issue as a taster, but there's more...

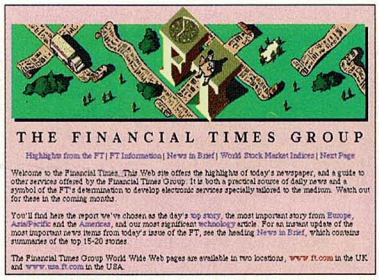

TIME
DAILY
Friday, August 18, 1995
SPECIAL PHOTO ESSAY: The Perot Parade. Behind the scenes at the United We Stand convention in Dallas, where politicians from both parties toured independent voters. In two parts: Section 1 (140K) and Section 2 (140K). Acrobat PDF format
Click here to download free Acrobat PDF Reader.
"NO DISHONOR": Citing her health and emotional well-being, a tearful Shannon Faulkner resigned from The Citadel today, unable to complete her first week as the school's first female cadet. "I'm afraid she was a bit naive about her ability to keep the program," TIME's Joe Kane comments. "She'd been a day student here for the year and a half -- she'd seen these guys in action, and yet she didn't get in top physical condition." For her part, Faulkner said, "I have no earthly idea what I'm going to do with my life will be miserable for a while. I don't think there is any dishonor in leaving." Faulkner expressed gratitude for the tremendous support she's received from many at the school.
Search for additional articles about Shannon Faulkner

Some topics are mentioned in other magazines in *Pathfinder*, so you can search for them.


File Edit View Tools Window
perot.section2.pdf
WORKING THE CROWDS
The Dukes, (top) and the Buchanans (bottom) press the flesh under the watchful eye of a man from Illinois (right).
NEXT BACK HOME

There are PDF articles you can download and view using *Acrobat Reader* – see page 54.





The Financial Times is on the Web with daily business news – and pink pages of course.

FutureNet

Future's entire line of magazines, including MACFORMAT, is on-line 24 hours a day.

For the ultimate in digital publishing, take a look at MACFORMAT in digital form. You can find it and loads more on FutureNet, Future Publishing's on-line service. Point your browser at:

http://www.futurenet.co.uk/

or, for more information about FutureNet, turn to page 16. Look out for more facilities coming soon, including bulletin boards.

about designing it well. This will encourage those who've been put off by having to get to know HTML codes.

Looking further into the future, the increasing maturity of Web tools and the continuing development of the Net infrastructure should lead to a more sophisticated look for the Web. HTML is quick and efficient but its potential for great design is limited. You can only use one or two typefaces for your main text, for example. Moves are afoot to bring the look of the Web up to the level we enjoy in other media. Netscape (the company behind *Navigator*, which over two thirds of people use to explore the Web) are hatching deals with partners that will give their software extra abilities. Apple are working with Netscape to incorporate QuickTime video into *Navigator*.

The Web is changing from a quirky novelty to a sleek, diverse instrument for learning and entertainment. But no one's figured out how to do Web magazines and make a living from it. Ironically, the furious growth of the Web is being subsidised by print.

The problem arises because the Web works in such a different way from what we're used to. You can use it to search for pages on a particular subject and go straight there, bypassing the structures that publishers have set up. You can choose not to go to certain pages. You decide how much of what's on offer interests you. How do you create a loyal following under these circumstances, and thus attract subscribers and advertisers?

Publishers like Time Warner (the biggest digital publishers in the world) are looking into various methods of making the Web pay for itself. Old ideas and techniques have no place in this brave new world; as the reader, you have more control over what you read than ever before.

What's in store

Publishing is moving across from paper into the electronic arena, but it's not only the Internet that is being affected. People using comparatively small networks, such as those you'd find in offices, are also discovering the benefits of the technology. Competing systems – PDF, DigitalPaper and Envoy – are all intended to make consuming the mounds of paper used by business each day unnecessary.

Each system is based on a suite of programs – there's a program for creating the documents in the first place, and one that can only display them. The latter is often free, so you give the viewing program to everyone who's likely to see the documents.

The aim of the programs is to recreate the glossy look of magazines and brochures on your Mac's screen. Portable publishing systems use a variety of technologies to reproduce things like fonts on your screen without the need to actually have them installed.

Extra features are often added – you can amend documents to add your own comments, and hypertext links like the ones you use on the Web can be built in. These programs, which are specifically designed for paperless publishing, marry the best of the last ten years of desktop publishing with the next ten years of the Internet.

The Internet will be affected by this technology, as it starts to take over from HTML. Adobe and Netscape are co-operating to enable a forthcoming version of *Navigator* to display PDF (Portable Document Format) pages immediately. At the moment, you

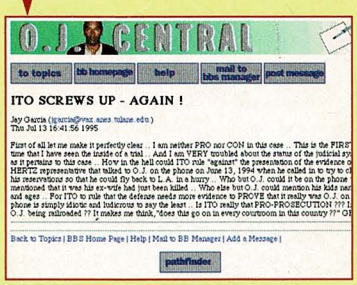
Continued on next page

Photon discusses the work of professional photographers, complete with galleries.

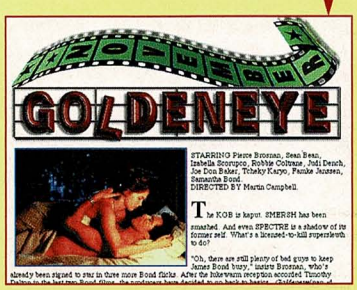
Within each subject area, there's a list of the magazines that relate to it.

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY FEATURES
FALL MOVIE PREVIEW
Everything from hitmen and serial killers to Shakespeare and Jane Austen
JERRY GARCIA
GO TO TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR MORE...

With *Pathfinder* screens, you click within the image to go to the next level.



You can use bulletin boards to see what other readers think, and have your own say.



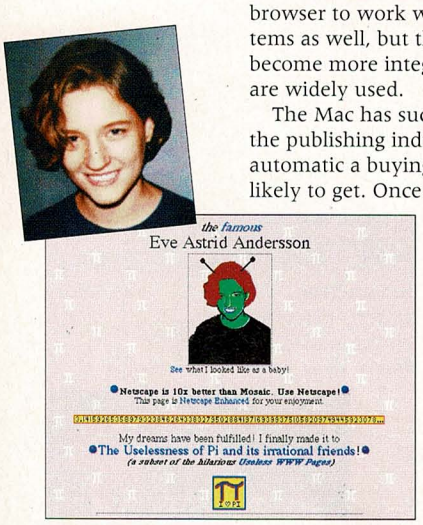
Web magazine designs are getting more like their printed equivalents, despite the limitations on the typefaces you can use.

JARGON BUSTER

Being on-line means that the facility you're using is readily accessible at short notice. So opening your connection with the Internet is going on-line, while a help function in a program could be described as on-line help.

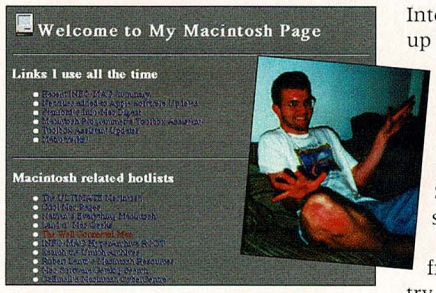
have to download PDF pages (copy them from their site on the Net and save them onto your hard drive), and set up *Navigator* to load *Acrobat Reader* automatically to read the file. It's already possible to set up your Web browser to work with the other systems as well, but the two sides need to become more integrated before they are widely used.

The Mac has such a high standing in the publishing industry that it's as automatic a buying choice as you're likely to get. Once creating Web pages becomes more like desktop publishing, the Mac will be placed to become the definitive machine for publishing on the Web. But will the computer that's played a major role in transforming the paper publishing industry help kill it off?


the famous
Eve Astrid Andersson
See what I looked like as a baby!
Netscape is 10x better than Mosaic. Use Netscape!
This page is Netscape Enhanced for your enjoyment.
My dreams have been fulfilled! I finally made it to
The Uselessness of Pi and its irrational friends!
(a subset of the hilarious Useless WWW Pages)

Eve Andersson is a student in the United States – her home page even has a fan club Web site.

It's estimated that 35 million people have access to the Internet at the moment, and not all of these can get onto the Web, so paper isn't under threat just yet. But the Net will change over time from a novelty only open to the lucky few (which is what 35 million is in global terms) to a mass medium. Today's Net is just a framework for a larger system that will emerge over the next few decades – and you can be a part of it.



Mac devotee Michael Monan publishes his favourite links as part of a lively site.

Doing it yourself

As the costs of Web publishing fall, it's not only the big publishers who are joining in. The Web is playing host to an explosion of magazines written by people from all walks of life. All you need is a computer like your Mac, the software to create your pages and somewhere you can put them for others to see.

This last requirement is no longer as much a sticking point as it was only a few months ago. It's true that few people can afford to keep their own Web site open, but they can use space allocated to them on a company or college server. More significantly, Internet service providers are opening up their own servers to the public – you can rent space on a server, where you can place your pages. And if you are renting an Internet connection, you may even find you'll be offered free space. CityScape offer 500K of Web server space to each of their customers.

Naturally there plenty of pages from people who work in the industry – stuff they put together during their lunch breaks – but the majority of home page publishers are just ordinary people. There's a long tradition of fanzines – a person or group of friends printing up a small quantity of magazines simply because they have something to say. Costs of producing, printing and distributing paper fanzines can run to hundreds of pounds just to publish a few hundred copies, but the Web changes all that – because good sites on the Web become popular through word of mouth as much as promotion, you can easily build up a large audience.

Over the next few pages we take a look at the software that enables you to write Web pages and show you how to create your own, then invite you to create your own Web fanzine – which we'll put on-line so that thousands of people can see it. Read on to see how you can become a Web publisher with MACFORMAT! **RICHARD HILL**

PAPERLESS PUBLISHING

If you want to save paper by creating documents specifically designed to be read with your Mac, there's a number of options open to you. You can use digital publishing systems to send presentations and memos around the office or create professional documents you can distribute on CD-ROM or the Internet. MACFORMAT presents the guide to paperless publishing formats...

DIGITALPAPER

You can create, distribute and amend DigitalPaper documents using *Common Ground*, a program that uses a system called TrueDoc. TrueDoc converts your font information into image files, so whoever reads your work on his machine won't need the same fonts installed that you have. It can also cope with languages that don't use the Roman alphabet, such as Japanese. There's a review of *Common Ground 1.1* on page 55, and an improved version (2.0) is due very soon.

DOCMAKER

DOCMaker creates standalone documents that feature scrollable, re-sizeable windows with graphics. Each document can be 60 chapters long, and readers can jump straight to any chapter from the contents menu. You can also define 'hot pictures' to act as buttons to play sounds or QuickTime movies. See next month's MACFORMAT Cover CD for the latest version of *DOCMaker*.

ENVOY

Novell are recognised as the kings of the office network – their Netware network systems are behind most of the larger office setups around. This puts them in a strong position to launch *Envoy*, a suite of programs for creating and reading portable documents. *Envoy Viewer*, for example, enables you to circulate documents and add notes and comments to them. *Envoy* will be distributed with Novell products including *WordPerfect* and Netware. Novell can be contacted on 01344 724000, and the latest version of *WordPerfect* is covered in What's New, on page 28.

HTML

HyperText Markup Language is the system used to create World Wide Web pages, but you can also use it to create documents to store on your own hard drive or floppy disks. You can't create fantastically sophisticated pages compared to something like *Acrobat*, but loading and moving between pages is faster. On page 60 we've rounded up a number of the most popular programs with which you can mark up your own pages.

PDF

The most ambitious of all the new digital systems, Adobe's Portable Document Format is based on PostScript, the industry standard printing technology. PDF pages can have typefaces just like a print publication, but you don't need to have the fonts installed on your Mac to see them. They can also include images and hypertext links. You can create and view PDF pages on your Mac with Adobe's *Acrobat* range of programs – see page 54 for a review.

PORTABLE DIGITAL DOCUMENT

With System 7.5, the latest Mac operating system, comes QuickDraw GX. It's a heavily revamped version of Apple's QuickDraw printing and imaging system, which improves your control over fonts and printers. Almost an accidental byproduct of these features is the Portable Digital Document (PDD), Apple's own digital publishing system. If you have QuickDraw GX, you can save a file as a PDD rather than printing it and send it across a network or save it on a disk. Anyone else who has GX installed can view the PDD, even if they don't have the fonts you used to make the document.

SIMPLETEXT

There's a copy of this – or its predecessor, *TeachText* – on every Mac, so anything you write with it and bung onto a floppy disk can read by any other Mac. *SimpleText* saves its files in ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange), which can be read by virtually any word processor on any type of computer, not just Macs. ASCII has a place in history as the original portable publishing format. We gave away *Claris XTND* on the MACFORMAT 26 floppy, which enables you to create a *SimpleText* document with graphics embedded. Produce the document in any compatible program, such as *ClarisWorks* or *MacWrite Pro*, then **Save As...** and choose SimpleText from the pop up menu.

MULTIMEDIA Creating + Editing + Assembling

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Choose from six software combinations selected by Gomark Design for creating complete high quality multimedia productions for professionals.

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10 Hurlingham
Business Park
Sullivan Road
London,SW6 3DU

Tel: 0171 731 7930
Fax: 0171 736 1215

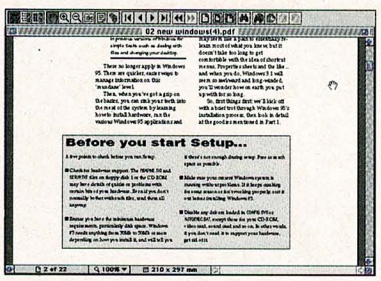
MULTIMEDIA Creating + Editing + Assembling

Acrobat 2.0

We'll be giving away a copy of *Acrobat Reader* on our Cover CD next issue!

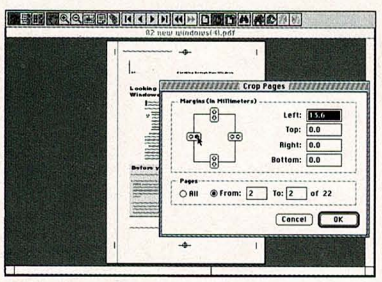
Adobe revolutionised the typesetting industry with PostScript. Can they now do the same with their universal portable document format?

Acrobat was the first 'portable' document creator for the Mac. It uses the system now used by its competitors, where you print a file not to your printer, but to a special driver which creates a portable file that other Mac users can read, whether they have the original application or not.



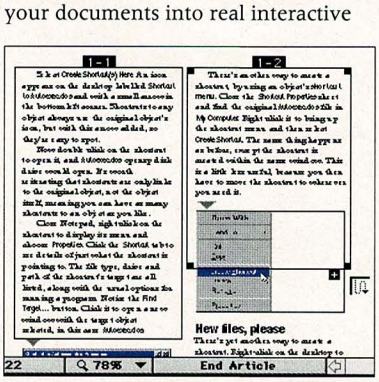
Acrobat files preserve greyscales and colour information perfectly – on screen they are indistinguishable from the originals.

Once the *Acrobat* driver has created its output file – a PDF (Portable Document Format) file – you can view it using either *Acrobat Reader* or *Acrobat Exchange*. As well as being a document reader, *Acrobat Exchange* (the part of the package that is not freely distributable) is a PDF editor, with which you can edit your document, dramatically enhancing it. You can do all sorts of useful things with your document: set up links between pages, parts of pages or even other documents; add pop-up notes; set up 'articles' where you define areas of the screen that can then be read in sequence; create thumbnail views in a separate panel for rapid navigation; and create 'bookmarks' to take you to individual topics and sub-topics within the text – in a collapsible 'directory tree' form.

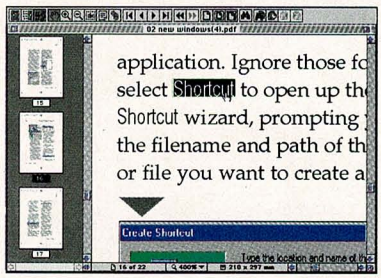


Exchange's cropping function enables you to cut out unused page margins. You can crop pages individually, too.

Acrobat Exchange's editing tools are deceptively simple – there's a lot of power under there. *Exchange* can turn your documents into real interactive multimedia reference works, and while the *Acrobat Reader* doesn't have any of these editing tools, it can use all the notes, links and bookmarks that other people have built in.



To make multi-column layouts easier to follow and read, you can select sequential blocks of text to form a continuous 'article'. These blocks are then magnified to fill the screen and single mouse-clicks take you from one text segment to the next. One of *Acrobat's* many helpful functions.

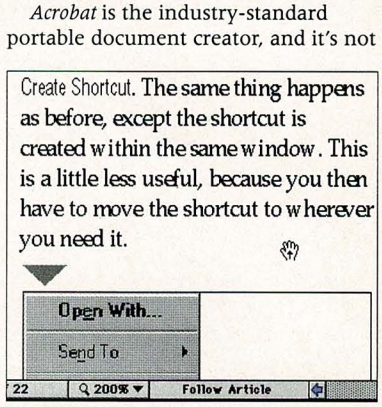


Use *Exchange's* **Link** tool to create a hypertext link to a graphic, another item of text, another PDF document or even an external file.

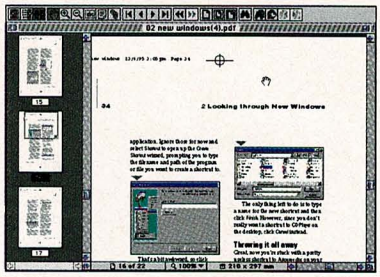
Acrobat files contain fully scalable fonts and graphics. You can also crop them to cut out unused page area, and view them at a variety of magnifications (you can fix some of these automatically during the editing process to suit the material). *Exchange* also has powerful search functions that enable you to search across many files, not just the current one (*Reader* has slightly less powerful search functions).

The page-cropping function is especially useful, because the PDF output file's pages are initially the size set up in the Page Setup dialogue, but your document's page dimensions may well be different. You can also crop individual pages to different sizes – useful if you have a single graphic occupying a page that would otherwise be too big for it. *Acrobat* includes optional protection to prevent others from copying your text and graphics. You can password-protect them, too.

Acrobat is the industry-standard portable document creator, and it's not hard to see why. Its documents are indistinguishable from the original (although often smaller) and you can add so much to them. You can even launch external applications and files from within an *Acrobat* document...



Create Shortcut. The same thing happens as before, except the shortcut is created within the same window. This is a little less useful, because you then have to move the shortcut to wherever you need it.



You can create a set of thumbnails, viewed in a separate panel, to make navigating through your document easier. Simply click on a thumbnail to go to that section of the document.

Faults? Well, your document's fonts have to be embedded in the PDF file if you want to avoid the risk of font substitution on the end user's machine. *Acrobat* insists that you choose the fonts to embed manually, and it doesn't tell you which fonts your document uses – instead, it lists every font on your system and asks you which you want to embed.

The output file size is sometimes hard to judge, too. In our tests, it produced slightly smaller files when converting *QuarkXPress* documents, but our test *ClarisWorks* document was slightly larger than the original. The original file is a good indication of the likely size of the *Acrobat* version. Also, you can't produce double-clickable applications. Your end users have to install *Acrobat Reader*, and that's that.

But apart from that, *Acrobat* smacks of sheer class. It comes with a CD-ROM containing many sample *Acrobat* files, which are well worth a browse, and provide a rich source of ideas and *Acrobat* techniques.

ROD LAWTON

MACFORMAT Classic

ACROBAT 2.0

Price: £137. (*Pro* version £419.) **Out:** now.
Requires: LC or better, 2Mb of RAM, System 7 or later.
Contact: Adobe on 0181 606 4000.

FEATURES 92%
All it's missing is the ability to create double-clickable files, but you can't have everything.

EASE OF USE 87%
The editing tools are amazingly simple to grasp, given their potential. Font embedding could be easier.

DOCUMENTATION 90%
Slim, but tells you all you need to know. There is a fatter on-line reference.

VALUE FOR MONEY 90%
A slick, powerful application, not just a utility. Feels like very good value.

MACFORMAT RATING 91%

ACROBAT ON THE NET

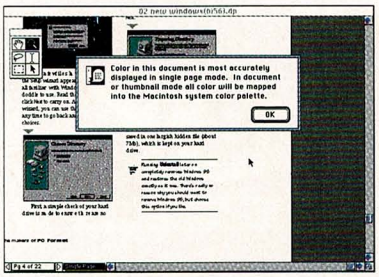
The next version of the *Netscape* WWW browser is expected to support *Acrobat's* PDF format – so no more clunky HTML pages.

QUICKDRAW GX

This version of *Acrobat Exchange* does not work with QuickDraw GX (but then neither will any Mac with less than about 128Mb RAM). But you can expect an *Acrobat* upgrade any day now.

Common Ground

There's more than one way to create portable documents. *Common Ground 1.1* offers some of the features that *Acrobat* misses – so what's the catch?


Color in this document is most accurately displayed in single page mode. In document or thumbnail mode all color will be mapped into the Macintosh system color palette.
OK

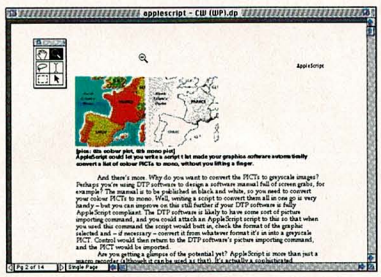
Common Ground reproduces colours accurately at full page size, but not if you reduce the scale.

Common Ground sets out to do the same job as the mighty *Acrobat* – produce documents that can be read by people who don't have your fonts or even your applications. *Common Ground* even goes one better by including a cut-down 'mini-viewer', which you can attach to your documents to turn them into double-clickable applications, whereas *Acrobat* users have to use a special 'reader', which isn't quite as neat.

Common Ground also enables you to copy text and graphics from its documents, and prevent unauthorised users from doing so, and you can also print documents. But apart from that, *Common Ground* and *Acrobat* are very different programs.

A clue lies in the blurb on the *Common Ground* packaging: 'Our Digital-Paper technology captures all the information about the fonts used in your document and provides a pixel-for-pixel representation...' While *Acrobat* generates files containing scalable text and graphics, *Common Ground* documents are, essentially, bitmap dumps of the original document.

This is apparent when you choose the output resolution. Go for the standard resolution, and the output file looks much like the original. Zoom in, and the text goes all bitty. If you want to magnify any parts of your document, or indeed print them on a 300dpi laser printer, you have to output high resolution files, which takes longer and produces bigger files.

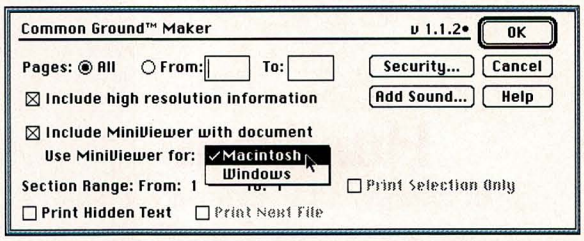


Common Ground coped much better with this *ClarisWorks* document than with the more complex *QuarkXPress* document we threw at it.

Like *Acrobat*, *Common Ground* uses a special printer driver to generate its documents. It's at the output stage that you discover two serious problems. First, *Common Ground* is slow. *Really* slow. Converting a moderately complex 1.2Mb *QuarkXPress* document at 'high' resolution took 56 minutes in testing. Selecting low-resolution (where everything looks fine until you magnify it) brought the time down to 32 minutes, where *Acrobat* took five minutes to output the file.

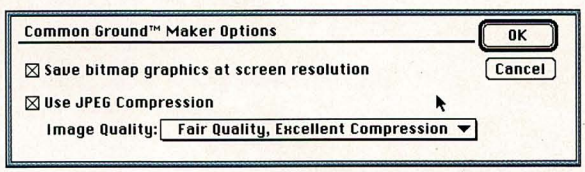
Second, *Common Ground* didn't appear to like our *QuarkXPress* file. It had a lot of trouble with both type rendering and file sizes. Some of the type was crunched up, elsewhere it was spaced out. It was legible, just, but something was not right. And the output files came out at more than 9Mb – the original *XPress* file was 1.2Mb. 'Make your documents truly portable'? If you have a truck, maybe.

Common Ground fared much better with a *ClarisWorks* document. The original was 255K and the *Common Ground* document came out at 204K (using low-res output and compression). But it still took 12 minutes to generate, while *Acrobat* generated an output file in one minute (although it came out at a slightly podgy 366K). It's worth noting, too, that attaching the run-time viewer to a *Common Ground* document adds barely 100K to the resulting file size. While *Common Ground's* system requirements are modest, its abilities are modest too. You don't have to worry about fonts, but that's basically because it bitmaps them.



Common Ground enables you to create double-clickable files that can be read either on the Mac or in Windows – a major plus point.

Once you've got your files, what can you do with them? *Acrobat* offers a whole suite of tools for turning your documents into hypertext-linked, annotated interactive documents, but *Common Ground* offers nothing. You can select and copy text and graphics to the clipboard, and you can search documents for words and phrases, but you can't add anything to the document itself. The one thing you *can* do in *Common Ground* that you can't do in *Acrobat* is add a voice message to your files. Is that useful? Well, it's a feature.



The *Common Ground* Page Setup options are far less intimidating than *Acrobat's*.

The document editor offers no editing tools for enhancing your documents and is simply not in the same league as *Acrobat*. Add to that *Common Ground's* bitmap approach to file formats, its desperately slow printing times, and its dubious support of complex documents and applications, and you have program that's best confined to cheap 'n' cheerful jobs. **Rod Lawton**

Common Ground 1.1

Price: £141. **Out:** now.
Requires: Any Mac, 1Mb of RAM (if using System 6), System 6.0.5 (System 7 for full set of features).
Contact: FontWorks on 0171 490 2002.

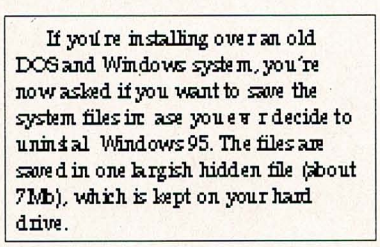
Features 42%
Generates double-clickable files but includes no editing tools.

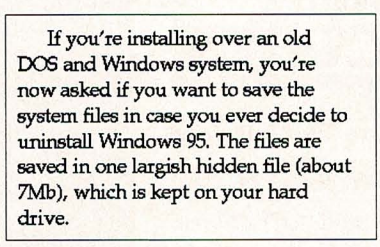
Ease of use 90%
...unless you count 'print' times, in which case you should knock off 65%. It's dismal on multi-page documents.

Documentation 67%
The QuickStart Card is a nice touch, while the 60-page manual is clear, but uninspiring.

Value for money 20%
Given its limitations, this would be poor value at half the price.

MACformat rating 36%


If you're installing over an old DOS and Windows system, you're now asked if you want to save the system files in case you ever decide to uninstal Windows 95. The files are saved in one largish hidden file (about 7Mb), which is kept on your hard drive.


If you're installing over an old DOS and Windows system, you're now asked if you want to save the system files in case you ever decide to uninstall Windows 95. The files are saved in one largish hidden file (about 7Mb), which is kept on your hard drive.

A selection of text from the *Common Ground* version of our text file. Doesn't look too healthy at 100%, does it? It looks better at a greater magnification – but only if you output a high-res file. And printing high-resolution files is not one of *Common Ground's* strong points – expect a long wait.

Windows of opportunity

Both *Common Ground* and *Acrobat* can export Windows-compatible files – and both provide software for Windows users to read them.

Not the last word

A major upgrade of *Common Ground* is due in the autumn. Version 2.0 addresses many of the failings of the current version of *Common Ground*, and will be sold at a special promotional price of £105.

Paul Morley
on London's Cyberia.

Nigel Floyd
goes on about films again.

Jim McClellan
may be in the Net, but he's still staring up at the stars...

Plus...

Hundreds
of all-new site reviews
(so, altogether that's MUCH MORE than 1,500). Sigh...

Hotspots
The best sites in their field, and no mistake...

Comics
TV
Football
Health
Gadgets
Gay
PC/Mac
Booze
Web Games
Nature & Environment

The .net Directory

Issue Two out now!

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http://www.futurenet.co.uk/computing/netdirectory.html

NEW!

The .net Directory

Issue Two October/November 1995 £4.99

The definitive guide to the on-line world

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Inside Cybercafé Society

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Where are they going?
Opening your own place
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Paul Morley at London's *Cyberia*

Hundreds of all-new Net sites featured and rated

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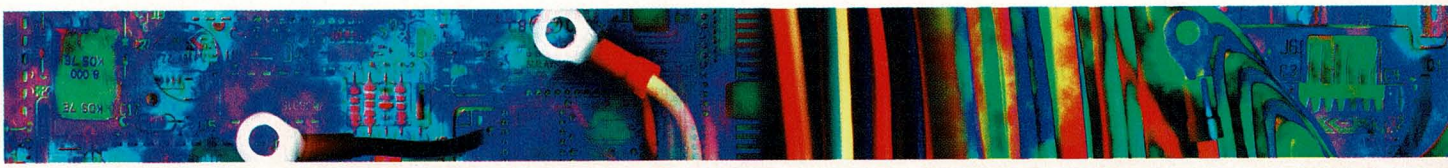


Authoring software

Forget typing in tags and checking errors by hand. If you want to code up your pages the easy way, you need some HTML authoring software. Neil Elkins rounds up the latest packages.

WHAT DOES HE KNOW?

Neil Elkins is Web Editor for FutureNet, so HTML tags are like old friends to him. Sadly, HTML tags are awful company down the pub, and they never get their round in.

The World Wide Web is a relatively new thing, and up until about a year ago there were hardly any HTML editing packages. Since then a number of people have clearly had the same idea, so now there are plenty. They range from some dire *HyperCard* and *SuperCard* stacks, thrust upon an unsuspecting world by altruistic and maybe even proud authors, to fully-fledged commercial packages that cost an arm and a leg.

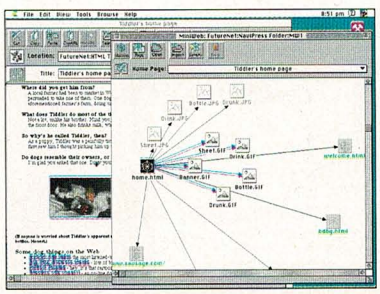
All the packages currently on offer fall into three categories: straightforward text editors with added features for inserting markup, full WYSIWYG authoring tools where you need never see an HTML tag again, and export filters for converting existing documents into HTML pages. In many ways it is better for you to find out how HTML works and get a feel for what is actually possible before using a package where the HTML is hidden. Most of the text-editor type packages have a preview option, which points your Web browser straight to the document in progress, making them a good way to learn. We've covered a broad cross-section of packages, but it's not exhaustive. Try any others you find in your travels.

Commercial software

NAVIPRESS 1.01

$99 full version
Demo version from **http://www.navisoft.com/**
NaviSoft on 001 800 879 6882
http://www.navisoft.com/

NaviPress adopts the incredibly sensible approach of being both a Web page editor and a Web browser at the same time. For once, what you see is actually what you get, complete with inline images and links which can be followed while you write your pages, all without the help of an external browser. Another interesting feature is the MiniWeb, which is basically a set of icons representing pages, with links between these icons and pages in the outside world represented by lines. This is a clever and useful way of visualising the structure of a set of pages. The only drawbacks are the lack of *Netscape* and HTML 3 tag support, and a distinct lack of speed on low end Macs. NaviSoft also offer a Web server package, which integrates seamlessly with *NaviPress*, plus the option to rent space on their server. An interesting and worthwhile product.



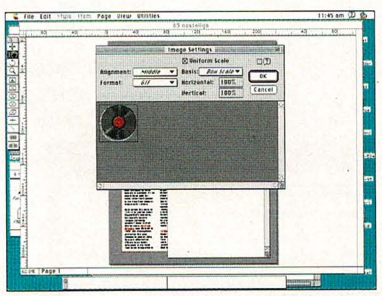
Use the *NaviPress* MiniWeb feature and say goodbye to broken links.

BEYONDPRESS 1.0

(QuarkXPress XTension)
£569.87 full version
Demo version from **http://www.astrobyte.com/**
XChange International on 0171 637 2966

Building Web pages from *QuarkXPress* documents is a tedious business, involving an awful lot of cutting and pasting to get all the text and images in the first place, then a similar amount of raw HTML markup. This XTension addresses the problem by adding a document content palette to *XPress*, which shows all the elements of the document in a list. These elements can then be shuffled around the list, images can be resized, pieces of text can be exported as images, and style sheets can be mapped onto HTML styles until the whole lot can be exported as a set of HTML pages.

With simple pages this works a treat, but more lively layouts need a lot of effort to get everything into some semblance of order. As a way of exporting large quantities of existing material from *XPress*, *BeyondPress* is (currently) unbeatable, especially given its flexible configuration options, but using it to create pages from scratch is a classic case of using a sledgehammer to crack a walnut.



BeyondPress has plenty of image handling options, including scaling and format selection.

A demo version of *BeyondPress* is included on our Cover CD this issue

While *BeyondPress* exports simple documents well, complicated docs need much more work.

Continued on next page

HoTMetaL PRO 2.0

Price £198.57
Demo from **http://www.sq.com**
SoftQuad Inc on 001 416 239 4801
http://www.sq.com

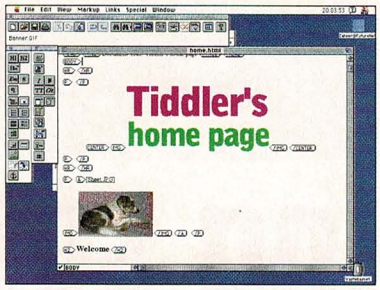
FEELING BROWSY

The ideal HTML editing package would, of course, be a browser too. Quite why Netscape haven't added some editing features to their browser is a mystery – maybe they'll get round to it some time soon.

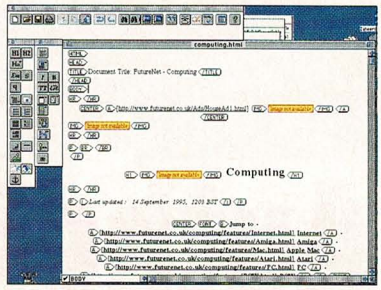
HoTMetaL is available for Windows, UNIX and Macintosh platforms, which makes it unique. It actually bills itself as an HTML word processor, and comes complete with a full dictionary and thesaurus built in.

The basic document display shows a page as text, with small icons representing HTML tags. It also displays inline images. A number of floating palettes contain all the common markup elements, and you can define keyboard macros. *HoTMetaL PRO 2.0* scores above earlier versions by being more sympathetic toward HTML 3.0 and *Netscape* tags – it loads documents with them in and enables you to use them. It also includes a dead handy validation feature, which enables you to tell exactly where your documents stand in the standards stakes.

HoTMetaL PRO could quite reasonably be called an industry standard HTML editing package, and this new, niggle-free version is more than worthy of the title.



HoTMetaL PRO 2.0 supports a semi-WYSIWYG display and loads of handy floating palettes.



While *HoTMetaL* supports Netscape and HTML 3 tags, they aren't actually displayed correctly.

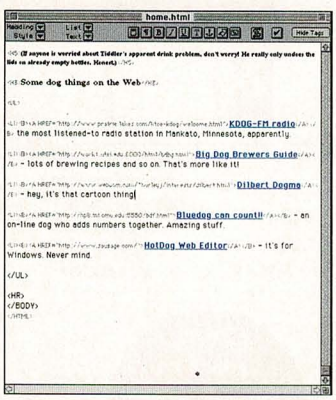
Shareware

You can find all the shareware in this round-up and more on the Cover CD

HTML Editor 1.0

$25 registration

This neat little editor still has a lot to offer, even though it's been stuck at version 1.0 for over a year now. It makes some attempt at WYSIWYG, while still showing the HTML tags in a smaller, different coloured font, which helps the real text of a page to stand out. You can construct links by choosing files from a standard Mac file selector or by simply typing them in, and pages can be previewed in an external browser at the click of a button. Its drawbacks include a limited set of keyboard shortcuts and a distinct lack of configurabililty. Some operations, most notably search and replace, are painfully slow.

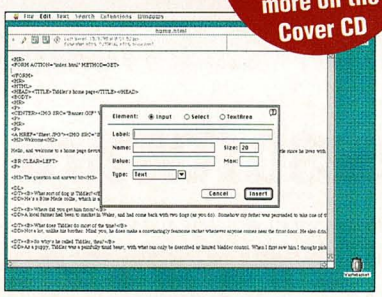


HTML Editor shows different page elements in various colours and sizes, making the code much easier to read.

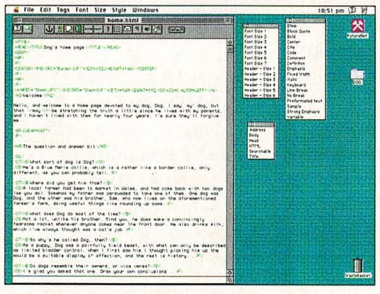
BBEdit HTML Tools 1.3

ftp://ftp.york.ac.uk/pub/users/ld11/BBEdit_HTML_Tools.sea.hqx

These tools are extensions for *BBEdit* and *BBEdit Lite*, and offer every HTML mark-up feature you could possibly want. The *BBEdit* family of text editors are highly regarded in the Mac programming world for their speed and versatility, and these tools complement this perfectly. There are keyboard shortcuts for everything and the configuration options are comprehensive, to say the least. The mechanism for selecting links is as friendly and sensible as you'll find anywhere. Unfortunately there is absolutely no concession to WYSIWYG operation, so pages can look very crowded and confusing. For 'power users' who know their HTML, there is no other choice.



BBEdit HTML Tools – they're daunting, but they're fast. Once you've learned the shortcuts.



HTML Web Weaver has lots and lots of floating palettes containing all the essential HTML codes.

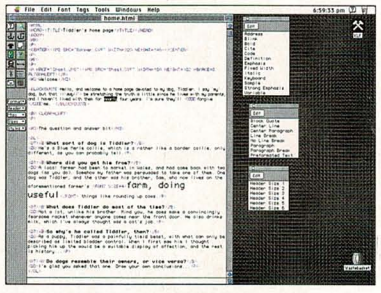
Web Weavers

HTML Web Weaver 2.5.2
World Wide Web Weaver 1.0a2
http://www.northnet.org/best/home.html

HTML Web Weaver 2.5.2 has been around for a while now, and is a basic text editor with bells on, much in the mould of *HTML Editor*. It does what it does well, but doesn't offer anything as advanced as viewing inline images.

World Wide Web Weaver, which is an alpha version of a commercial package, builds on this formula, providing plenty of different markup options by way of a set of configurable floating menus. In operation, *World Wide Web Weaver* is considerably faster than its older brother, and both these packages are well worth a look.

Given the huge interest still being generated by the World Wide Web, we should be seeing plenty of new HTML authoring packages popping up in the near future. With any luck someone will make one which includes an image manipulation module – something that currently requires a separate package. We shall see... **MF**



World Wide Web Weaver's palettes are fully configurable – a truly future proof package?

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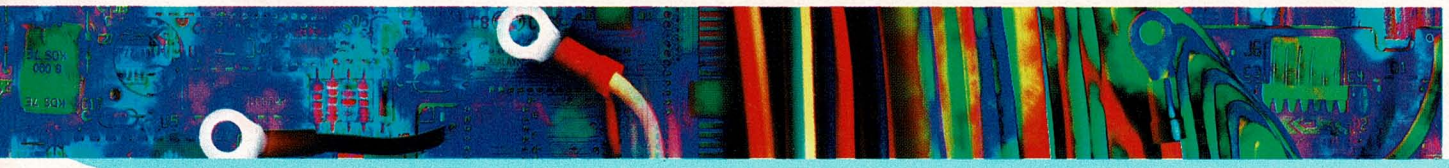


Create a Web page

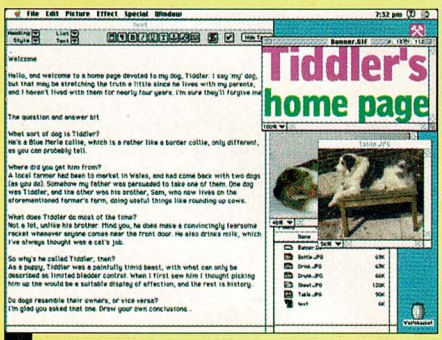
Discover freedom of expression on the Web, reveal your inner psyche to the masses, or just show them a picture of your dog. Neil Elkins shows you how.

The World Wide Web is an amazing thing. It enables just about anyone, from the largest corporation right down to the individual, to publish their material to a world-wide audience, with no printing costs and an almost limitless circulation.

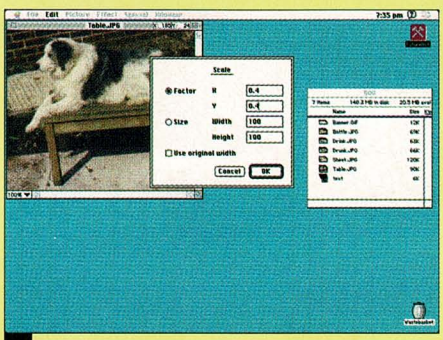
Even complete amateurs can publish whatever they fancy on the Web without the hassle of buying expensive software or hardware, and sometimes with stunning results.

To make your own home page, use an HTML editing program like any of the ones on the CD-ROM this issue. A graphics program that can save images in the GIF format is also useful – try *GraphicConverter* on this month's CD. GIF stores your images in a compact

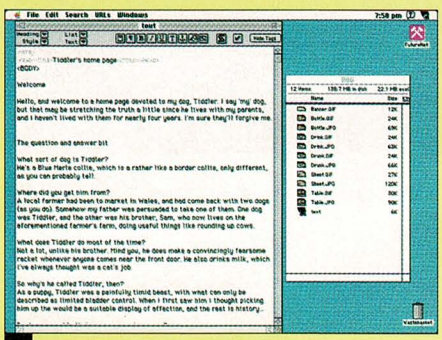
IT STARTS LIKE THIS...



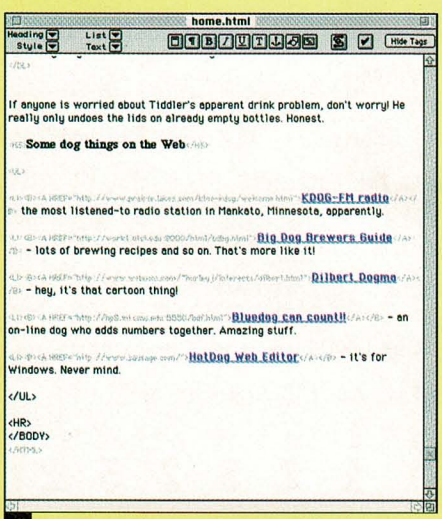
1 Get your material together. Here we have some text describing the life and times of the animal in question, along with some scanned photographs of it doing amusing, heartwarming, dog-like things. HTML can't use fonts like a desktop publishing program can, so the colourful headline was written in a word processor, and then grabbed by taking a snapshot of the screen.



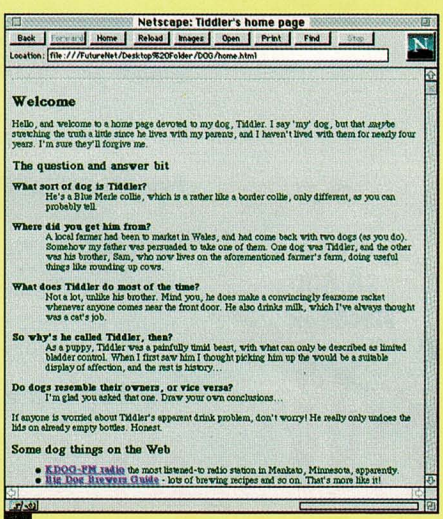
2 The scanned images are huge and still in JPEG format, so they need to be scaled down, reduced to 256 colours and saved out as GIFs. The size of the images on your page should be small – less than, say, 50K in total, to ensure they download quickly. It's useful to jot down the width and height, in pixels, of the images. Here we're using *GraphicConverter 2.1.4*, which is on this month's CD-ROM.



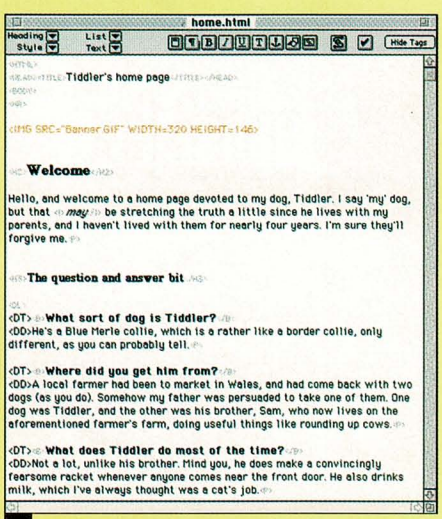
3 All HTML documents should contain certain elements. The Title is the most important, since this text appears in the title bar of the browser window, and is also used as the bookmark text. The page is shown here with these standard elements inserted, but before further mark up. The software used here is *HTML Editor 1.0*, which is also on the cover CD-ROM.


home.html
If anyone is worried about Tiddler's apparent drink problem, don't worry! He really only undoes the lids on already empty bottles. Honest.
Some dog things on the Web
KDOG-FM radio
the most listened-to radio station in Mankato, Minnesota, apparently.
Big Dog Brewers Guide
- lots of brewing recipes and so on. That's more like it!
Dilbert Dogma
- hey, it's that cartoon thing!
Bluedog can count!
- an on-line dog who adds numbers together. Amazing stuff.
HotDog Web Editor
- it's for Windows. Never mind.

5 Some canine links were found by searching for the word 'dog' in the *Yahoo* WWW catalogue. The **Anchor** command around the name of each site tells the browser that those words are a hypertext link to the specified URL, so clicking on the words will take you straight to that site. Try to avoid making links around the words 'click here' – it looks awful.


Netscape: Tiddler's home page
Location: file:///FutureNet/Desktop%20Folder/DOG/home.html
Welcome
Hello, and welcome to a home page devoted to my dog, Tiddler. I say 'my' dog, but that maybe stretching the truth a little since he lives with my parents, and I haven't lived with them for nearly four years. I'm sure they'll forgive me.
The question and answer bit
What sort of dog is Tiddler?
He's a Blue Merle collie, which is a rather like a border collie, only different, as you can probably tell.
Where did you get him from?
A local farmer had been to market in Wales, and had come back with two dogs (as you do). Somehow my father was persuaded to take one of them. One dog was Tiddler, and the other was his brother, Sam, who now lives on the aforementioned farmer's farm, doing useful things like rounding up cows.
What does Tiddler do most of the time?
Not a lot, unlike his brother. Mind you, he does make a convincingly fearsome racket whenever anyone comes near the front door. He also drinks milk, which I've always thought was a cat's job.
So why's he called Tiddler, then?
As a puppy, Tiddler was a painfully timid beast, with what can only be described as limited bladder control. When I first saw him I thought picking him up the would be a suitable display of affection, and the rest is history...
Do dogs resemble their owners, or vice versa?
I'm glad you asked that one. Draw your own conclusions...
If anyone is worried about Tiddler's apparent drink problem, don't worry! He really only undoes the lids on already empty bottles. Honest.
Some dog things on the Web
KDOG-FM radio the most listened-to radio station in Mankato, Minnesota, apparently.
Big Dog Brewers Guide - lots of brewing recipes and so on. That's more like it!

6 The document has been saved with a name ending in '.html', and loaded into the browser using the **Open File...** option. As you can see, it all looks very tidy if a little, well, dull. What it really needs is some pictures...


home.html
Tiddler's home page
<IMG SRC="Banner.GIF" WIDTH=320 HEIGHT=146>
Welcome
Hello, and welcome to a home page devoted to my dog, Tiddler. I say 'my' dog, but that maybe stretching the truth a little since he lives with my parents, and I haven't lived with them for nearly four years. I'm sure they'll forgive me.
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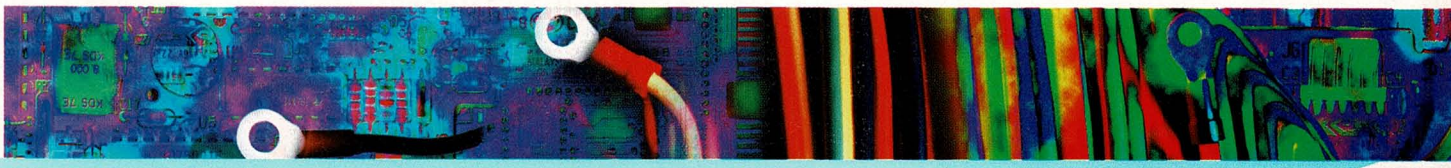
What does Tiddler do most of the time?
Not a lot, unlike his brother. Mind you, he does make a convincingly fearsome racket whenever anyone comes near the front door. He also drinks milk, which I've always thought was a cat's job.

7 Placing an image on the page is similar to making a link, except that the URL needn't be fully specified – just use the file names of the images, and the browser loads them from the same folder the page came from. Be careful with upper and lower case file names – while the Mac ignores case, UNIX systems (which your page may end up on) don't.



way to keep their file size small.

The language used to describe a Web page is a simple one, called HTML (HyperText Mark-up Language). It consists of a small, easy-to-learn set of tags which facilitate everything from making a piece of text bold to placing an image and creating a hypertext link. For instance, to italicise some text you'd use the mark-up

<I>A piece of italic text</I>

which would be rendered by the Web browser software as

A piece of italic text

All the tags follow this pattern, and they are just plain text and angled brackets, so you can use any text editor from *SimpleText* upwards to write HTML.

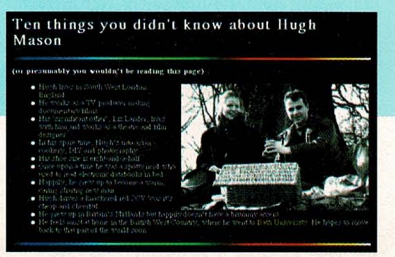
When your page has been written, you can check how it looks using a Web browser, the type of program used to explore the World Wide Web. Popular WWW browsers include *Netscape Navigator*, *NCSA Mosaic* and *MacWeb* (included on MACFORMAT 27's bumper crop of Internet programs).

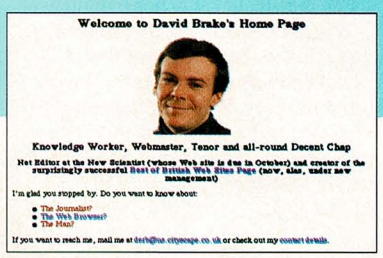
Your Web magazine is then ready to be shown to the eager masses, by storing on the hard drive of a server – a computer used for providing material as part of the Net. If you don't have access to a server through college, work, or an Internet service provider, turn the page for details of MACFORMAT's Web publishing competition, and see if you can win a place on the MACFORMAT Web site (and a Performa)!

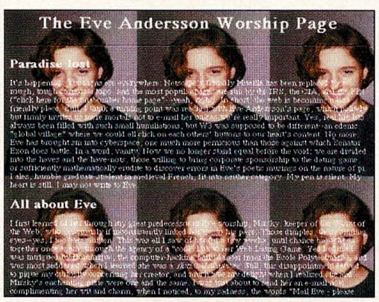
TAKE A LOOK

We've placed the HTML file and the images Neil used to make *Tiddler's Home Page* on our CD-ROM. They're in the HTML Tutorial folder, with all the HTML editing programs.

Continued on next page



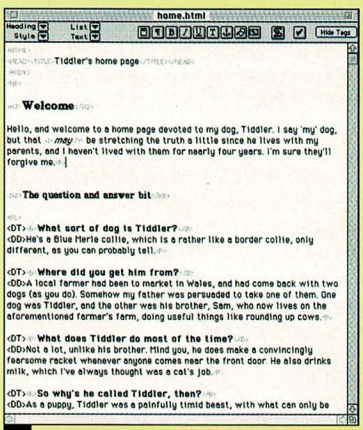




Do you think you could do better? If you have access to a server through work, college or an Internet service provider, why not set up your own home page? If you don't, check out the competition, page 63.

FUTURENET

The process of converting magazine pages ready to display on FutureNet is almost exactly the same as the one described here, the only difference being that we usually start with fully laid-out pages in *QuarkXPress*, take them apart and put them together again in HTML.


home.html
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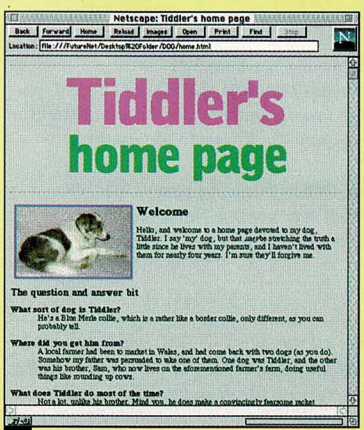
Not a lot, unlike his brother. Mind you, he does make a convincingly fearsome racket whenever anyone comes near the front door. He also drinks milk, which I've always thought was a cat's job.
So why's he called Tiddler, then?
As a puppy, Tiddler was a painfully timid beast, with what can only be

4 The text is fully marked up, using Headings, Bold, Italics, Horizontal Rulers and so on. The question and answer part of the text has been turned into a Definition List, which means each answer is indented slightly to the right of the question.


Netscape: Tiddler's home page
Tiddler's home page
Welcome
The question and answer bit
What sort of dog is Tiddler?
Where did you get him from?
What does Tiddler do most of the time?

8 The page has been saved and loaded into the browser again. As you can see, the pictures have blue borders. This is because they are linked to the bigger JPEG versions of themselves, using the Anchor tag. Now the basics are done you can start playing around with things like centring and image alignment, and you should soon have something that looks like the finished page here – have fun.

ANATOMY OF A WEB URL

Each page on the World Wide Web has its own address or URL (Universal Resource Locator). Here's how MACFORMAT's own home page URL works:

http stands for HyperText Transport Protocol. Its presence at the beginning of the URL tells your Mac to look for the page through the Internet.
This is the name of the server that your Mac needs to contact to get the page. www indicates it's a Web server, while the co and uk strands are commonly used in e-mail addresses, and serve much the same identification functions here. See last issue's e-mail feature for more details.
The file you're looking for is stored in a folder called 'computing'.
The name of the page file you want to see comes last.
http://www.futuret.co.uk/computing/macformat.html

You can put Web pages together even if you don't have a Web server and a permanent Internet connection. Web browsers are just as capable of loading pages from your hard drive as they are getting them over the Net.

So while you're writing your HTML code, there are two ways of making your Mac load from a hard drive or floppy disk. You can use these with commands like linking or loading images. The **file:** command in the format **file:///name_of_disk/name_of_folder/name_of_file** (no spaces) makes the links in your pages point to exact locations on your hard disk or floppy disk. Note there are three slashes between the identifying tag and the folder name, rather than the two used with **http:**.

The other option is to use relative URLs. If the file you're working with is in the same folder as the page you're writing, you can just insert the file name into the command without specifying its location. Your Mac will automatically look for it in the folder it went to to load up the current page. See the next page for more details.

HTML Codes

All HTML tags are made up of control codes inside angled brackets. Some, like the Style tags and anchors, enclose a section of text, while others, like the Image tag, stand alone.

The following list is not exhaustive by any means, but the essential basics are included. Bear in mind that different browsers may render things in different ways, which means that what you write on your system may not always look the same on other people's systems.

IN A LINE

In HTML, there *must* be spaces in between separate commands when you use several, but there must be *no* spaces in actual location addresses. We've used the ¬ character on this page to indicate that a command continues onto the next line with no spaces.

Style tags

<B>[Bold]</B>
<I>[Italic]</I>
<U>[Underline]</U>
Doesn't work on all browsers.
<PRE>[Preformatted]</PRE>
Renders the text in a non-proportional font such as Courier, which is useful for laying out tabulated data.

<STRONG>[Stronger]</STRONG>
Generally the same as Bold.
<EM>[Emphasis]</EM>
Generally the same as Italic.

<H1>[Heading 1]</H1>
The largest heading style, through to...
<H2>[Heading 6]</H6>
The smallest heading style. All headings automatically have a large line break before and after them.

Line breaks and Lists

<P>
Paragraph – creates a large line break.

A normal line break.
<HR>
A horizontal line across the page.

<UL>
Unordered, or bulleted, list. Contains a number of items, each preceded by an <LI> *tag, which creates a line break and inserts a bullet at the start of the line. End the list with* </UL>

<OL>
Ordered list – similar to <UL>*, except the bullets are replaced by incrementing numbers. End the list with* </OL>

<DL>
Definition list – different from the other lists because it has two parts: the <DT> *part, which is a thing to be defined, followed by the* <DD> *part, the definition.*

Anchors (or links)

These turn whatever they contain into a clickable link. This is usually indicated by the text being blue and underlined, or by a blue border if it surrounds an image.

<A HREF="[http://www.something ¬
.com/somepage.html]">[Anchor]</A>
A fully specified link, because the URL, or Uniform Resource Locator, points to a specific page on a specific server.

<A HREF="[page.html]">[Anchor] ¬
</A>
A relative link will find the page in whatever folder the current page came from. The link can be to something in a subdirectory: (<A HREF="[subdirectory/ ¬
page.html]">)
or in a directory above the current one:
(<A HREF="../[page.html]">)
Links can also be made to any other file type, such as pictures, sound files, QuickTime movies and so on.

Other links can also be made, for instance: <A HREF="[news:uk.misc]"> ¬
Anchor text</A> *would open the newsgroup* uk.misc *when clicked.*
<A HREF="[ftp://an.ftp.site/a_ ¬
directory/a.file]"> *would take you to the ftp site called an.ftp.site.*

Inline Images

<IMG SRC="[picture.gif]">
Puts the specified image on the page. In most browsers the tag can contain an ALIGN *field for aligning text alongside the image: either* ALIGN=TOP, ALIGN=MIDDLE or ALIGN=BOTTOM.

The Netscape Navigator *browser also understands* ALIGN=LEFT and ALIGN=RIGHT, *which places the image on the specified margin and flows the text around it. When you want to force some text or further images to be placed in either margin use* <BR CLEAR=LEFT>, <BR CLEAR=RIGHT> *or* <BR CLEAR=ALL> *to clear either or both margins.*

Another handy Netscape extension to the IMG tag is the WIDTH *and* HEIGHT *tag – specify the size (in pixels) of your image using these, and* Netscape *can lay out the text immediately and load the images later.*

In practice, you find something like this:
<IMG ALIGN=LEFT WIDTH=120 HEIGHT=120 HSPACE=5 SRC="http:// ¬ www.futurenet.co.uk/Images/Mugshots/ ¬ picture.GIF">

Miscellaneous

<CENTER>[Centered text]</CENTER>
This Netscape *extension simply puts everything it contains in the centre of the page.*

<BLOCKQUOTE>A ¬
[Quotation]</BLOCKQUOTE>
This usually indents whatever it contains from both the left and right margins.

<BLINK>[Blinking text]</BLINK>
Never, ever use this Netscape *extension – it looks rubbish.*

HTML 3

Like all standards, HTML has to change to keep up with people's demands. HTML 3 is currently on the drawing board, and it includes a number of advanced features such as Tables and Paragraph alignment. Certain things are already recognised by some browsers, most notably Netscape. *Unfortunately,* Netscape *also recognises some completely proprietary tags, something which is causing no end of (rather political) argument.*

The best approach you could take is to use the Netscape *extensions and HTML 3 things if you want, but try and make sure the page is still good without them.* **MF**

RESOURCES ON THE WEB

The best place to find out about writing Web pages is, of course, the Web itself. One very good way of learning how to code up pages is to look at other people's work. To do this, just choose the **View Source...** option in your browser whenever you see something you like.

There are also a huge number of HTML tutorials and reference texts out there – here are the URLs of a few lists:

http://www.w3.org/hypertext/WWW/Provider/Style/Introduction.html
Always worth a look at, this one. It's a style guide written by Tim Berners-Lee, the bloke who invented this World Wide Web thing.

http://home.netscape.com/home/how-to-create-web-services.html
This is *Netscape's* set of links to HTML resources, and it includes details of their extensions. Lots of fun to be had.

http://www.yahoo.com/Computers_and_Internet/Software/Data_Formats/HTML/
This is thee best Web catalogue, and has a characteristically comprehensive set of links to resources. In fact, you'll probably find anything there, for instance...

http://www.yahoo.com/Computers_and_Internet/Internet/World_Wide_Web/HTML_Editors/
Has links to dedicated HTML editors, as opposed to text editors, for every computing platform.

Win a Mac!

Now you've seen how easy it is to create a Web page, why not try it? We want to see your Web magazines – and we have a Performa 5300 worth £2,375 to be won.

The 5300 is the latest of Apple's Performa range, with amazing multimedia and video capabilities. It also comes with a built-in modem enabling you to get onto the Internet.

This Mac has everything. First, it offers 16Mb of memory and a 1.2Gb (1,200Mb) hard drive – enough for the most demanding of programs. The 603e PowerPC chip can run PowerMac and Mac software, and it has a quad-speed CD-ROM drive.

The modem can transmit data at 14,400 bits per second – plenty for most everyday Internet use. Get yourself an account with an Internet service provider and you can connect up to the World Wide Web, send and receive e-mail, join newsgroups and more. You also get software for sending and receiving faxes, and you can join Apple's exclusive eWorld service.

With the Performa's TV tuner and card, you can watch television on its 15-inch monitor, and bring in images from a video camera or recorder and edit them into QuickTime movies with the supplied *Avid Videoshop* software.

You also get excellent full-screen video with the MPEG card. MPEG is a video standard that's used in Video CDs, with a wide variety of hit films and music videos available, and customised CD-ROMs. The four MPEG CD-ROMs in this package include *Return to Zork* and *Wild Africa*.

There are several other CD-ROMs in the 5300 package, including Classic rated *3D Atlas*, *The Grolier Encyclopedia*, *The Way Things Work*, *Myst* and the interactive movie game *The Daedalus Encounter*. Your word processing, spreadsheet, database and graphics needs are met with *ClarisWorks*, the best-selling productivity package.

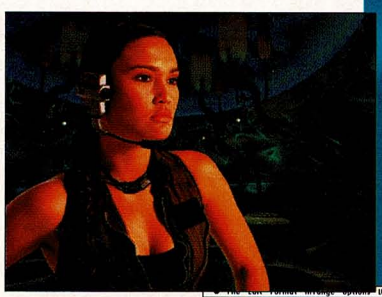
The Performa 5300 costs £2,375 in the shops, but we have one up for grabs in our competition, courtesy of Apple Computer UK.

The competition

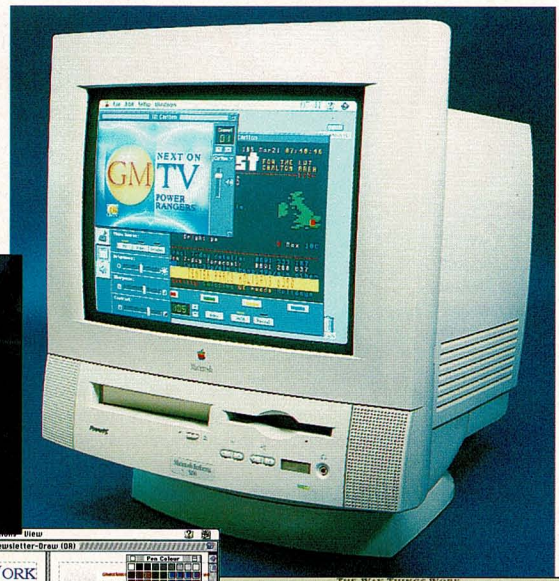
To win this Performa, you need to create your own Web magazine and send it in to MACFORMAT. We'll put the winner's magazine and the best of the rest on FutureNet, our own Web site. Don't worry if you don't have Internet access – you'll get to see them in a later issue of MACFORMAT, too.

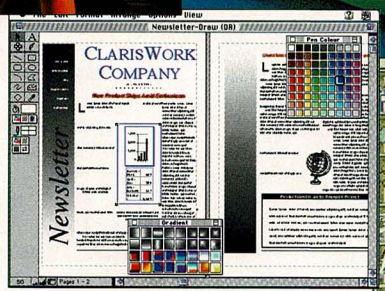
The magazine can be on any subject you like. Something to do with the Mac, like design, games or Mac hints and tips perhaps. Or it could be a guide to something you know a lot about – music or art maybe? Or just tell us about yourself. But remember, MACFORMAT's Web pages get thousands of visits every week, so you need to do something that makes all those people want to read your mag.

You can use the software supplied on this issue's CD-ROM to create your Web page. If you didn't get the CD-ROM edition, HTML editing software is available on the Net (we've put up links on the MACFORMAT site), or through any good shareware library, or you can use any word processor.



You could win all this and more! Well, not Tia Carrere, but a very classy Performa 5300...





Any text file must be a basic Text file that SimpleText can read, and all your images must be in GIF or JPEG format so that Web browsers can display them. We recommend the relative URL method for putting images and page links into your HTML documents – see our DIY Web tutorial starting on page 60.

If we think your magazine is the most interesting, entertaining and well-produced of all those we see, you'll receive a Macintosh Performa 5300 and get your work on the Web.

Have a careful read of our guidelines and rules in the box on this page and get your Web magazine (on one floppy disk only, please) to us by Friday 24 November. Send your entries to: 'The enormous Mac compo', MACFORMAT, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW. **MF**

MAC PERFORMAS

For more details on the Performa 5300 and the rest of the Performa range, contact Apple on 0800 127753.

THOSE ALL-IMPORTANT RULES

- Entries must be submitted on a single Mac-compatible floppy disk. Please write your name and address clearly on the floppy disk label. No e-mail entries will be accepted.
- We can't return your floppy disk, so make sure you've kept a copy of your entry.
- Your magazine can consist of several pages or just one. Multi-page productions should have links between pages. You can put in links to other sites that are connected with your chosen subject, but make sure the addresses are correct.
- Your Web pages, including any images and icons, must be all your own work: we will not have permission to put any work created by other people on FutureNet.
- Your entry must be original, not something you've created that is already on the Web.
- Employees of Apple Computer, Future Publishing or associated companies, and their families are not eligible to enter. The editor's decision is final, there is no cash alternative, and no correspondence will be entered into. Please state if you don't want your name added to a mailing list.

Perfect pictures

You've bought a colour scanner, scanned your first photo, and the result doesn't reflect the expense. Brian Larkman shows you how to tart up your scans.

Your holiday photo suffers from just about every common fault. Age and poor original exposure have left it dull and lifeless. The colour is biased to reds. The original print or scan left lots of dust and scuff marks, the image could perhaps do with being cropped, and it certainly needs to be sharper.

Ta da! With a little effort and some image processing software, the awful original photograph has been transformed into this greatly improved image. See the tutorials to find out how we did it.

IMAGE PROCESSING SOFTWARE

In this series of tutorials, you'll find three different image editing programs referred to: *Color It!*, *PhotoFix* and *Photoshop*. These cover a wide price range, and *Photoshop* is the universally acclaimed and costly industry standard. We also refer to the *KPT* plug-ins, which can be used with any of these programs and diversify them considerably. See our Plug-ins feature in MACFORMAT 27 (turn to page 125 if you missed that issue).

- Adobe *Photoshop 3.0* costs £737.90. For more details contact Principal on 01706 831831.
- *Color It! 3.0.2* costs $149.95 plus $15 P&P from the US, or version 2.3 comes bundled with *Kai's Power Tools*, which costs £151.58. Contact MicroFrontier in the US on 001 515 270 8109 or for the *KPT* package contact Principal on 01706 831831.
- *PhotoFix* from Le Pixel costs £116.33 for the RGB version, and £175.08 for the CMYK version. For more details contact Linographic on 01252 376103.
- *Kai's Power Tools* and *KPT Convolver* each cost £151.58. For more details contact Principal on 01706 831831.

ADVANCES

Color It! 2.3, which comes bundled with *Kai's Power Tools* and *KPT Convolver*, has been used for these tutorials. We'll be giving away the full version of *Color It! 2.3* on our Cover Disks next month!

UNSHARP MASK

This isn't a Mask to hide Unsharpness, but the remnant of a pre-digital photographic technique where you used a thin negative (or mask) superimposed over a positive image and slightly offset to enhance the contrast at the edges.

However much of a perfectionist you may be, taking the perfect photograph is almost impossible – a fact that countless thousands of photographers have to face every time a film is processed.

Poor focus or camera shake, poor framing of the subject, under- or over-exposure, colour cast, dirt and hairs on the lens, shiny noses, red-eye... you name it. No one who has ever held a camera is entirely free of guilt. Yet each of these cock-ups can be corrected fairly easily if you have a Mac and image processing software. So how do you achieve perfection?

First, you need to get the image onto your screen. If you have a CD-ROM drive that is PhotoCD compatible, asking for your photos to be put onto a CD when they are processed is the cheaper and easier solution – it'll cost you about £20 for a 36 exposure 35mm film. Otherwise, you need to get the prints, negatives or trannies scanned. Of course, you get what you pay for, and expensive scans, like expensive scanners, give better results. Nevertheless, to the untrained eye, the output from a PhotoCD or a £500 scanner can be made to look very nearly as good as a

EXPOSE YOURSELF (AND YOUR IMAGES)

1 **Auto Contrast** uses a standard formula to correct exposure. The result is usually an improved dynamic range of tones, with the darkest made black and the lightest made white – we used *PhotoFix* to modify this image. The **Auto** button is a good starting point for correction – if you're unhappy with the results, try the manual **Brightness** and **Contrast** tools found in most programs, but these can lose detail in light and dark areas.

2 Of the three programs used here *(Color It! 2.3, PhotoFix* and *Photoshop), Photoshop* provides the most detailed adjustment with its brilliant **Levels** controls **(Image/Adjust/Levels)**, which presents you with a graphical representation of all shades/colours in the image. Notice the black, grey and white arrows; these represent shadows, mid-tones and highlights. Moving each arrow adjusts those areas independently.

3 Clicking the **Auto** button in this case moves the black and white arrows into the lightest and darkest actual colours, then spreads all of the shades out to the edges of the graph, giving you a full dynamic range of greys. Now you can use the grey arrow to adjust the tone of the mid-range colours without affecting the brightest and darkest tones as much as you would otherwise, so that you retain shadow and highlight detail.

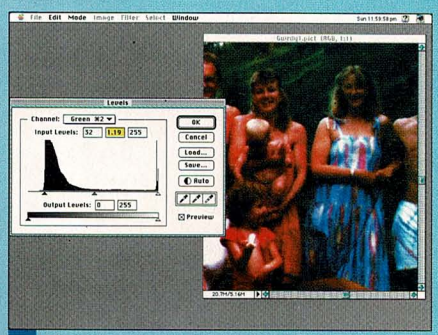
professional (expensive) drum-scan.

So what about the problems you face once your photo's scanned in? In truth, it takes years of experience to train your eye to even see some of the errors, let alone correct them, but there are lots of tricks you can try, which correct exposure, colour, framing, blemishes and sharpness. They're all covered on these pages, and we'll bring you more next month, in our continuing image editing series. **MF**

GET THE COLOUR BALANCE RIGHT

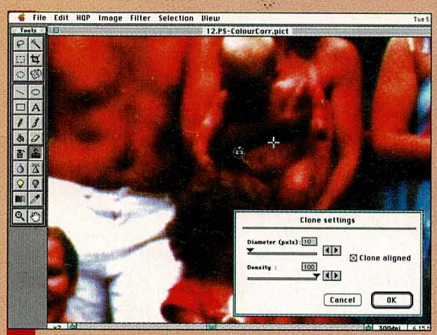
1 Most programs use separate red, green and blue sliders to enable you to correct colours, which makes removing a dominant colour or colour cast a simple task. *PhotoFix*, shown here, has one compact dialogue, containing RGB, Brightness, and Contrast sliders and an **Auto** button. It's complicated by the fact that highlights, mid-tones and shadows all react differently, so they may need to be adjusted individually.

2 *Color It!* also has an **Auto Contrast** function and **Contrast** and **Brightness** sliders, as well as, unusually, **RGB Brightness** and **RGB Contrast** controls. These are all used rather awkwardly in separate dialogues. With practice, you can get similar results to those offered by *PhotoFix*, but *Color It!* still offers no control of highlights, mid-tones and shadows (unless you have the latest version – 3.0.2).

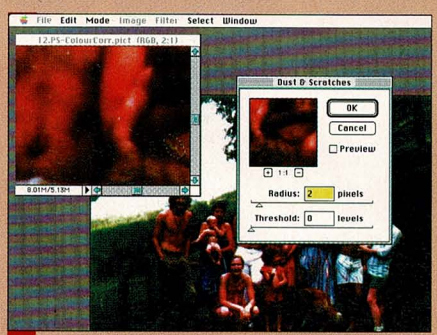


3 For the most professional results, once again, your best choice is to use *Photoshop's* **Levels** control. Above the display you can find a drop-down menu that enables you to select individual colour channels. Using this you can apply all of *Photoshop's* subtle control over highlights, mid-tones and shadows to each colour independently, giving you much more control over the final colour balance.

IMPROVE FRAMING AND REMOVE BLEMISHES



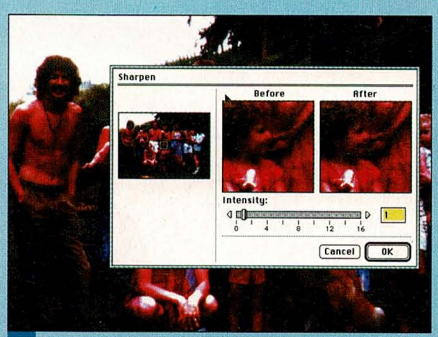
1 Poor framing needs a quick crop, which most programs should enable you to do *(Color It!* applies a crop to any selected area on request). To remove dirt and scratches you need a **Stamp** tool. Using this, you simply **[option]-click** to select an area to copy, then paint directly over the blemish. In this *PhotoFix* screen grab, the cross marks the source and the circle marks the area that's been copied to using the **Stamp** tool.



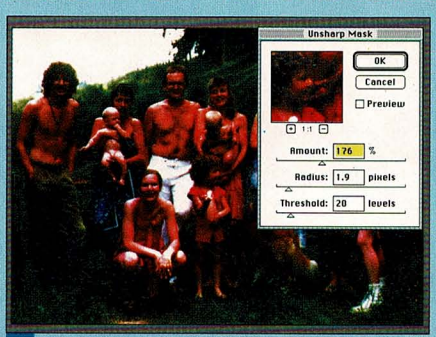
2 *Photoshop* has an extra tool that you can use to tackle blemishes: the **Dust and Scratches** filter. The pixels inside a selected area are blended with surrounding pixels, depending on the positions of the two sliders shown. You need to use this very carefully, or the area can be made over-smooth and blurred.

3 *Color It!* and *Photoshop* have another tool, called **Despeckle,** which you can use in a similar way. Apply to a complete image and the whole thing becomes blurred, but careful selection enables you to remove both coarse texture and blemishes from smaller areas. Both programs have interactive dialogue boxes with previews – these are from *Color It!* Notice that the white mark on the red dress has been removed.

SHARPEN UP YOUR IMAGES



1 You can correct poor focus, if it's not too extreme, using a sharpening tool. Most image processing programs have several – this is *Color It!'s* offering. Despite the **Intensity** slider and interactive preview, it's difficult to control precisely what is sharpened, with the result that blemishes, textures and even scanning anomalies are sometimes enhanced. *Color It! 3.0.2* also has an **Unsharp Mask** filter similar to that in *Photoshop.*



2 *Photoshop's* **Unsharp Mask** filter works primarily by enhancing the contrast at 'edges' rather than over the whole image. The **Radius** slider controls how far from an edge the pixels are affected, and the **Threshold** slider sets how far apart the colours of pixels need to be for the area between them to be considered an edge. The **Amount** slider controls the sharpening strength – several low amounts may give the smoothest results.

3 Even with feedback from the preview in *Photoshop's* **Unsharp Mask** filter, it can be difficult to see just what the result of moving three different sliders will be. The *KPT Convolver* plug-in – shown here operating in *PhotoFix* – gives more feedback with multiple variations, but even then it can be hard to tell what the final result will be.

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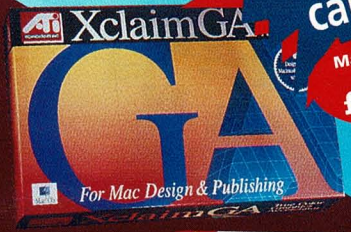

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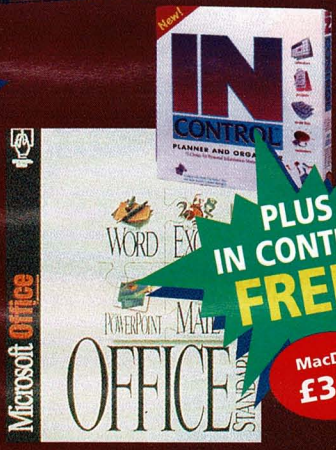

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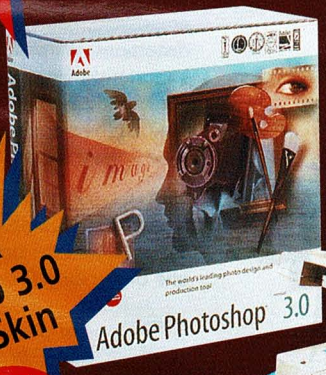

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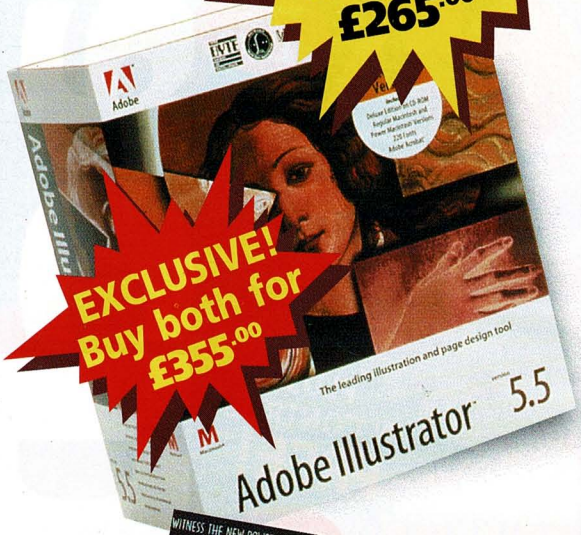

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More powerful than ever – that's **Adobe Photoshop**, now accelerated for the Power Mac! The industry's leading photo design and production software supports multiple layers and lighting effects, plus colour correction tools that make editing and production easier than ever!

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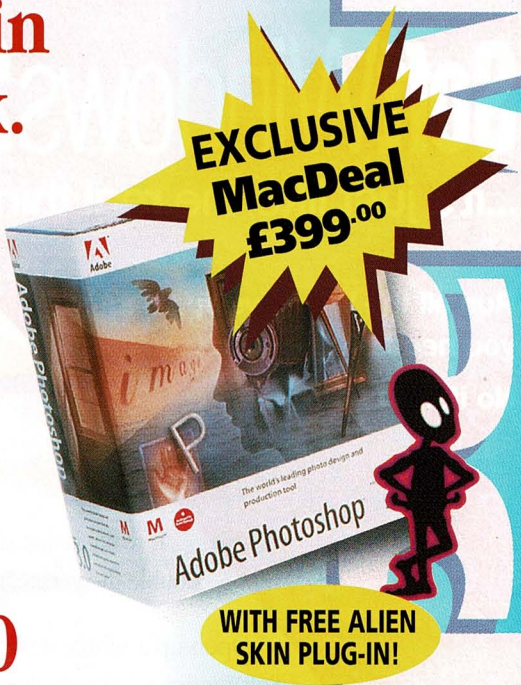

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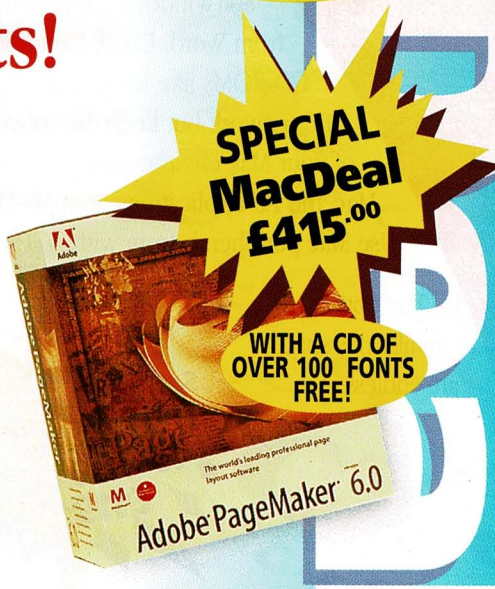

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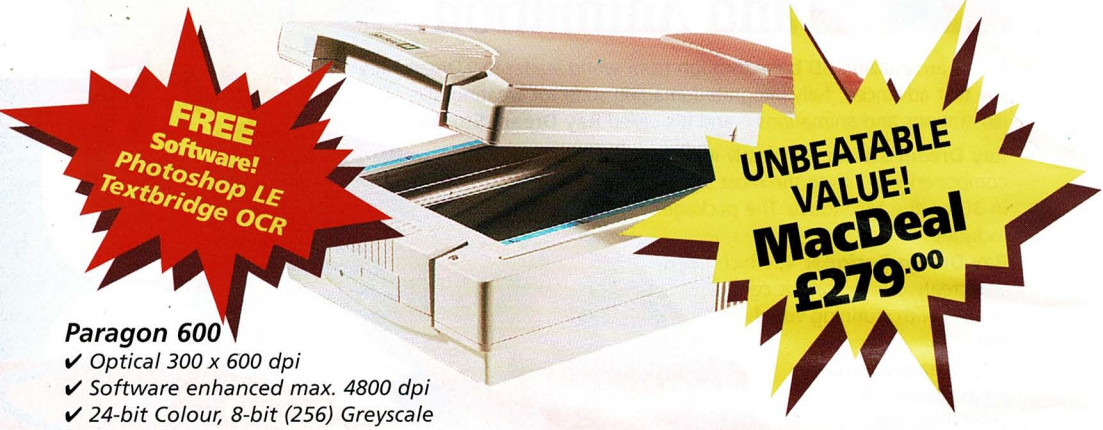

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If you use a Power Mac, then read on. Because here's a graphics accelerator from ATI that'll really blow your mind without blowing a hole in your wallet.

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The XclaimGA board supports display resolutions up to 1600x1200dpi, with a 75Hz refresh rate. You get easy access to a host of features, including pan and zoom, and you can modify your workspace access, or switch colour depth and resolution on the fly. All at a quarter of the price of some PCI boards. Yes, a *quarter!*

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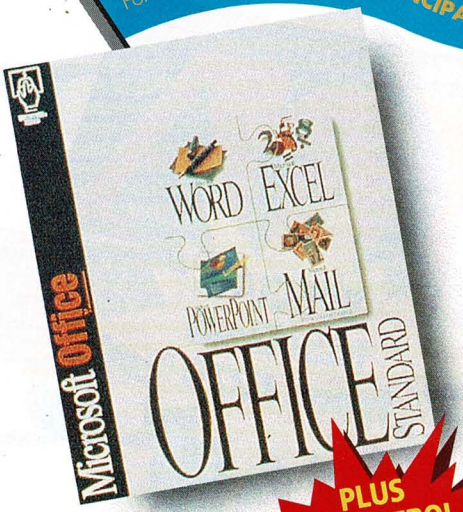

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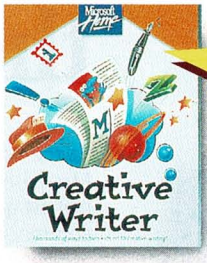

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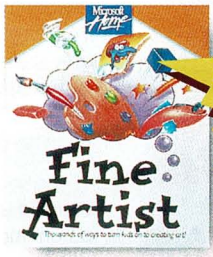

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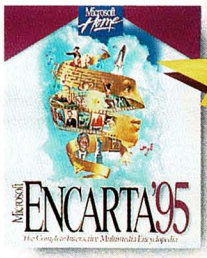

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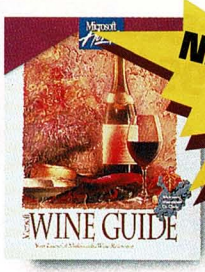

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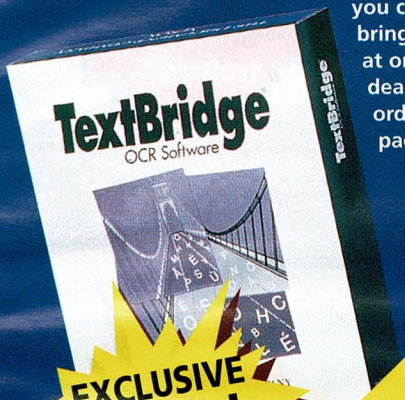

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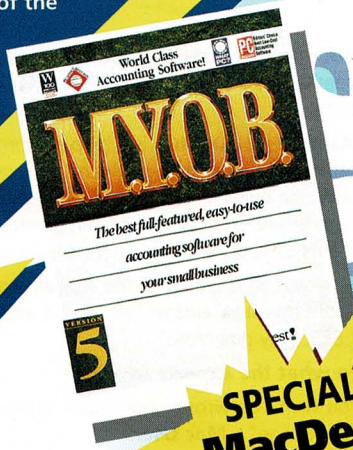

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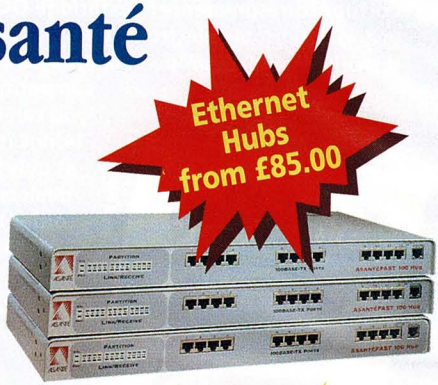

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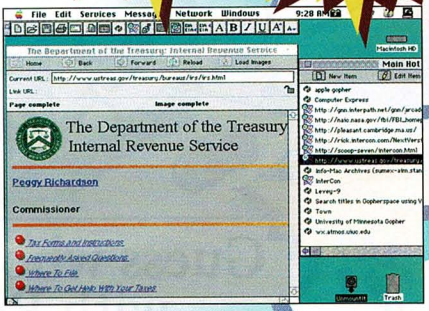

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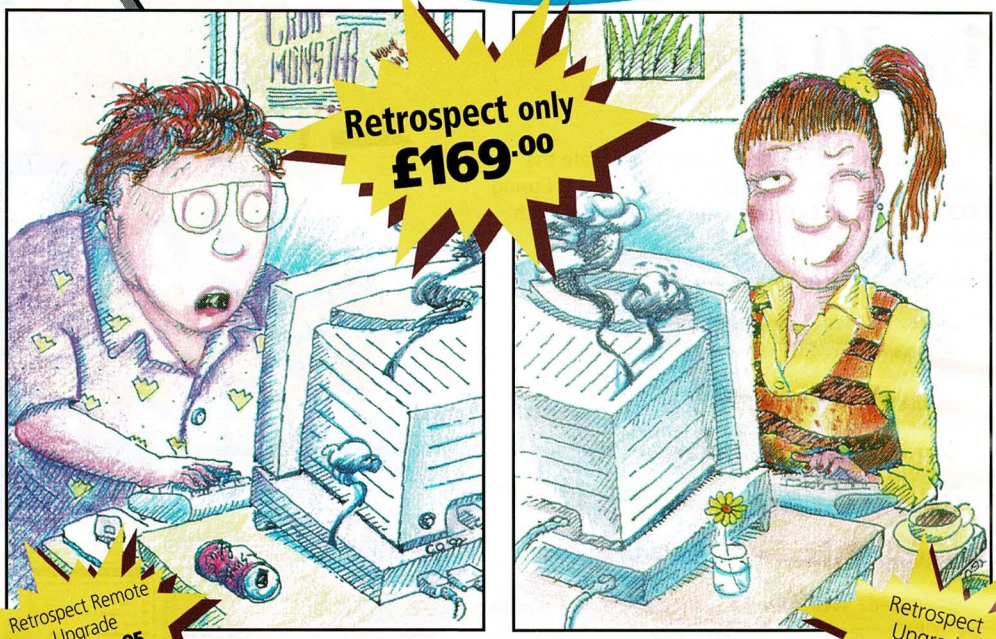

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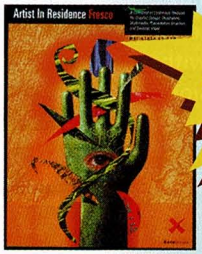

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When it was all fields

Continuing our regular series on database basics, Rod Lawton examines field types, and shows you how using them correctly can enhance your database.

Most database applications work in the same way. Each record consists of a set of pre-defined fields, and when you create a new database, you are asked first of all to define these fields. This means not only naming them, but also defining what *type* of field you want each to be; these can include text, number, time, date, calculation and summary fields.

What would happen if you defined all your fields as text fields, then? Well, this solution is fine for beginners, because it doesn't prevent you storing numbers and dates as well. But by defining all your fields as one type you would be failing to exploit your database's real power, and the different field types are in fact simple to understand and use. *ClarisWorks*, which is a typical Mac database, and is also the application most people have, includes the following field types.

Text fields

Most people think of databases as containing text entries – names and addresses, occupations, telephone numbers and so on. Telephone numbers? Yes. Although phone numbers aren't text, it is useful to treat them as text. For example, if you have a telephone number but you don't know who it belongs to, you can search your database of contacts for the record with that number. If you're still struggling with database basics, you can define all your fields as text fields to make life simpler, but you won't be able to make any numerical calculations.

Number fields

You might define a field as a number field if you want to store a telephone number, a VAT number or maybe the number of someone's house in it. Doing this can cause you problems, though, because number fields can contain only numbers. For example, if you have two telephone numbers for one of your contacts, you can't type 'home' or 'work' in front of them to differentiate them. Similarly, you could use a number field to store house numbers when recording an address, but you're stuck if one of your contacts lives in flat 3b...

Number fields are particularly useful if you want to carry out a calculation based on the number. For example, if you run a company you might find it useful to keep a database of invoices dispatched. Each record could contain the name of the person invoiced, the amount, VAT, and the VAT-inclusive total. Since the VAT rate is a constant 17.5%, you don't actually have to type in all three figures – you can get your database to do it for you. Like spreadsheets, any decent database application can carry out calculations, once you know how to set it up. For this, you need a calculation field...

Calculation fields

You don't type data into a calculation field. Instead you type in a formula. In the case of your invoice database, you can create a calculation field that calculates 17.5% of the invoiced sum. This calculation field (the 'VAT' field) will then display the amount of VAT payable for each invoice.

All you need then is another calculation field, which you could call 'Total', set up to add the invoiced sum field and the VAT field.

Date fields

Whenever you submit a new invoice, you will want to record not only the amount and who you invoiced, but the date you submitted the invoice too. Although you can enter a date into a text field, it does limit the subsequent operations you can carry out.

For a start, when a field is defined as a date field, it displays its contents in a regular, defined way, such as 'Tuesday, 22 August, 1995' or '22/8/95', according to how you've set it up. Even if you type the date in in the wrong format, or without using

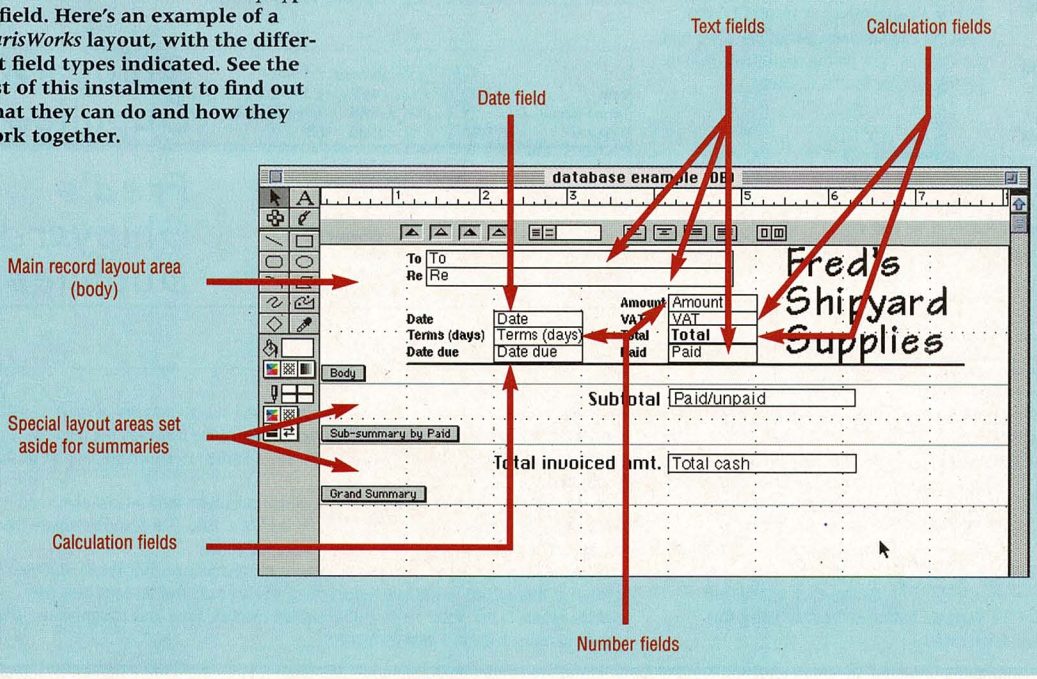
CHECKING INPUT

ClarisWorks and other database applications have features that make user input as foolproof as possible. They can offer a list of pre-defined responses; they can prevent you from entering anything not on the list; and they can stop you closing the record if certain fields are still empty.

Continued on next page

NAME YOUR SPECIALIST FIELD...

A database can contain many types of field. Here's an example of a *ClarisWorks* layout, with the different field types indicated. See the rest of this instalment to find out what they can do and how they work together.



WHAT'S IN A WORD?

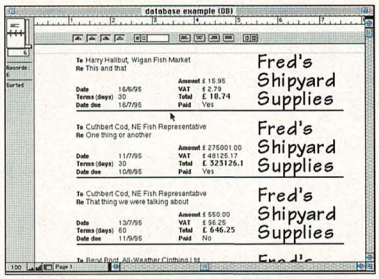
The word 'database' is often used to describe both database applications and the files they produce. For the sake of clarity, we'll use 'database' to describe files and 'database application' or 'database software' to describe the programs that generate them.

OTHER PROGRAMS

Many of the examples in this series are based on the database module in *ClarisWorks*, because that's the software we can assume most people have. However, we'll also be covering *FileMaker Pro*, the Mac's most popular dedicated database application, plus any programs you request, space permitting.

NEXT TIME...

You aren't stuck with just one layout for your database – you can create a number of variants, all of which can be accessed readily from the menus. Next time we'll look at the surprising range of design tools on hand, and how you can generate different layouts for different purposes.



This is what our database looks like in Browse mode. Here we're perusing invoices.

capital letters for the month, or you can't remember the day of the week, your database can usually work out what you meant and display it correctly. Some databases, *ClarisWorks* for example, have an 'insert date' function, which automatically inserts the current date into a database field.

The other advantage of using a date field is that you can then carry out calculations on it. When do your invoices fall due? If they are due 30 days, say, from the date of submission, it's easy to create a calculation field that takes the contents of the 'submission date' field, adds 30 days and displays the answer, again in date form. Because the Mac is smart enough to know how many days there are in each month, the 'due date' field always shows a correctly calculated date.

Time fields

Time fields work in a similar way to date fields, and the same principles apply. Imagine you're a factory manager keeping a log of which machines are working on which jobs. If you know the start time for each job and how long the job should take, your database can calculate when the machine should have finished. *ClarisWorks*, incidentally, has an option that automatically enters the current time into a field, which even saves you the trouble of looking at your watch. Don't forget, if you define a field as a 'time' field, it can usually correct any minor formatting errors or omissions when you type times in.

Summary fields

As well as the fields described above, *ClarisWorks* also offers 'summary' fields. Summary fields, like calculation fields, contain a formula rather than a specific number. The difference between a summary field and a calculation field is that summary fields don't appear on every record – they draw

		Amount	£ 88.56
Date	7/8/95	**VAT**	£ 15.50
Terms (days)	60	**Total**	**£ 104.06**
Date due	6/10/95	**Paid**	No

To Pete Pilchard, Trawlerman's Newsletter
Re What we left off last time

		Amount	£ 1000.01
Date	22/8/95	**VAT**	£ 175.00
Terms (days)	60	**Total**	**£ 1175.01**
Date due	21/10/95	**Paid**	No

Total invoiced amt. £ 325653.04

You get one grand summary per database. It totals all the contents of the relevant field in all records, unless you've just carried out a search.

figures from many different records.

A sub-summary field, for example, could provide sub-totals of all the unpaid invoices. But if you wanted to know the total value of business to date, a grand summary field could calculate the value of all the invoices submitted to date, paid or not.

See the potential yet?

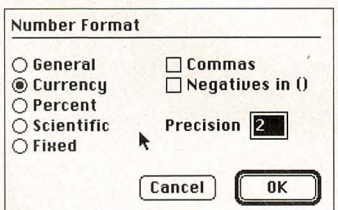
Databases can do more than list facts and figures. Choose your field format carefully, learn to handle calculations, sorts and summaries, and you can turn a static database into an interactive reference source that checks your input, calculate dates and figures and summarises your progress. **MF**

HOW DO THEY DO THAT?

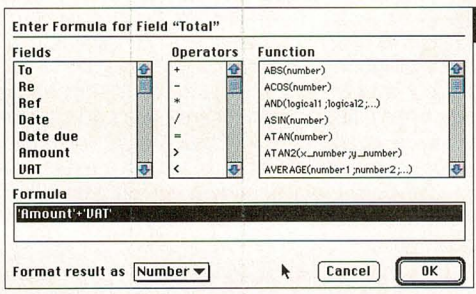
Our sample *ClarisWorks* database demonstrates some handy features. Let's take a closer look at just how the fields were set up.

Values for "Text" field "To"
Pete Pilchard, Trawlerman's Newsl
Harry Halibut, Wigan Fish Market
Cuthbert Cod, NE Fish Representat
Samuel Steel, Anchor Chains Inc.
Doris Decker, Superstructure Mart
Giles Glass, Portholes'R'Us
Beryl Boot, All-Weather Clothing L
Beryl Boot, All-Weather Clothing Ltd.

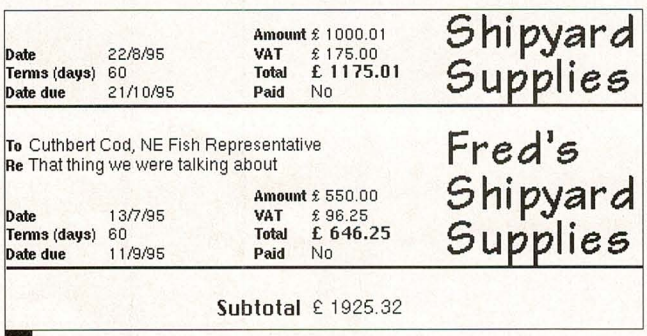
1 Text fields
These are straightforward enough, but if you find yourself typing in the same names regularly, *ClarisWorks* can make life much easier. From the **Layout** menu choose **Define Fields...** and double-click the relevant text field. This gives you an **Entry Options** dialogue – click on the **Predefined list** checkbox in the bottom left, then click the **Edit list...** button. You can now pre-define entries for that field, so that when you click on it in future, you get a pop-up scrolling list of alternatives to save you typing the entry in full.



2 Number fields
These can be formatted according to whether you want the field to contain normal numbers, currency, scientific notation, negative values in brackets and more. To choose a number format, choose **Layout** from the **Layout** menu, select the arrow tool, then double-click on the appropriate field to get the number format dialogue.



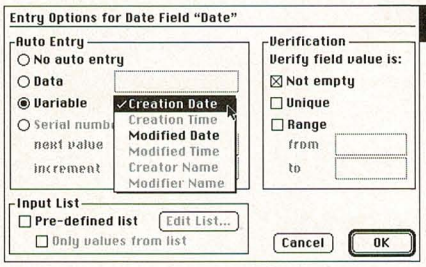
3 Calculation fields
ClarisWorks can carry out more than just simple arithmetical functions. In fact, it offers as many specialised formulae as you can find in most spreadsheet packages. To insert a formula, you simply double-click the appropriate field in the **Define Fields** dialogue, then create your formula by clicking on field names, operators and formulae from the scrolling list on the right.



5 Summary fields
ClarisWorks offers two kinds of summary fields: sub-summaries, which summarise sets of records with matching data in one of the fields (all the records relating to one particular client, for example); and summaries, which summarise all the visible records.

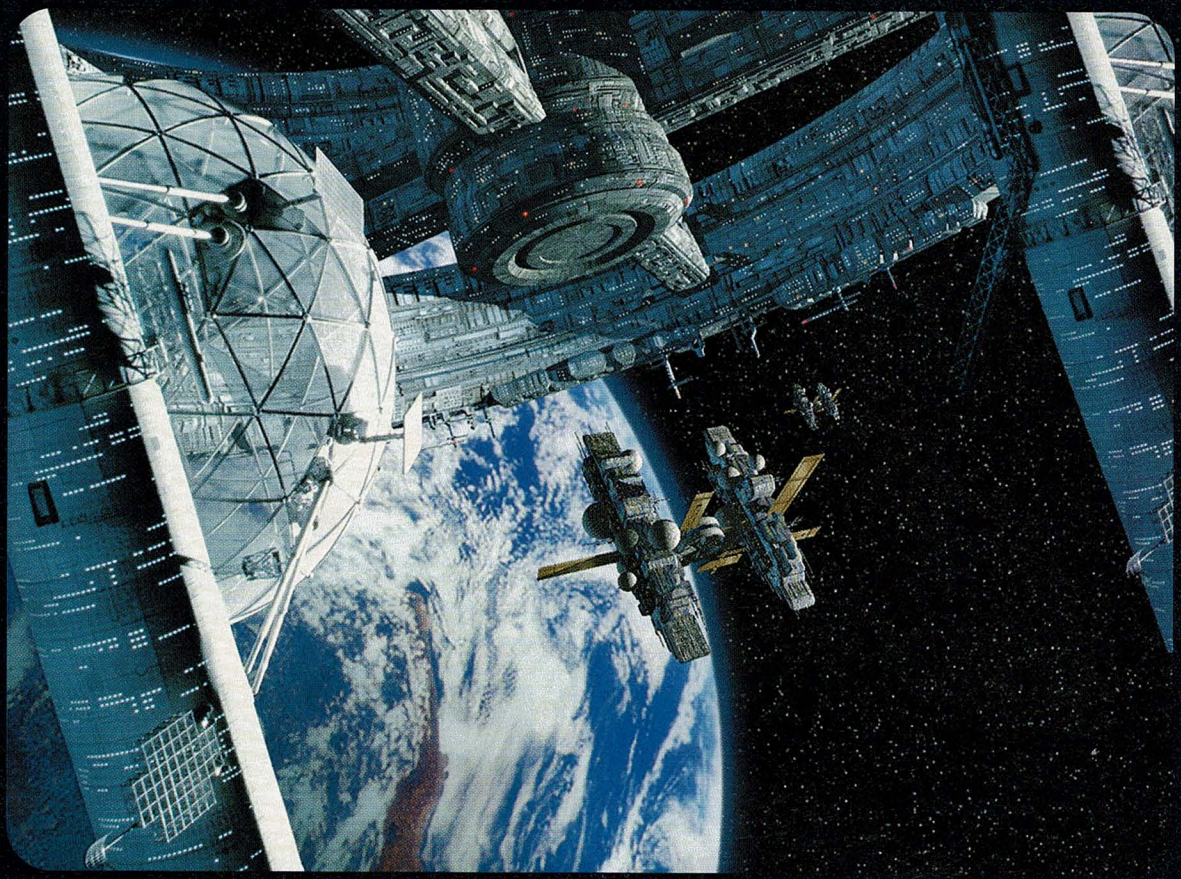
In the example, there is a sub-summary, which calculates total unpaid sums and total paid sums when you sort the records by the 'Paid' field. The grand summary then calculates the total amount of all invoices submitted so far.

Each of these summary fields contains the same formula: =SUM('Total'). But the position of these fields in the layout governs what they calculate. In each case they total the values in the 'Total' fields in the relevant records. We'll look at summaries and reports in more detail in a later instalment.



4 Date fields
Date fields can usually fix sloppy input by adjusting what you type to fit the defined format. To choose your date format, double-click on the field in **Layout** mode. You can also set date fields to insert the current date automatically: double-click on the field in the **Define Fields** dialogue, then click the **Variable** button in the **Auto Entry** area and choose **Creation Date** from the pull-down menu.

FROM GOMARK DESIGN



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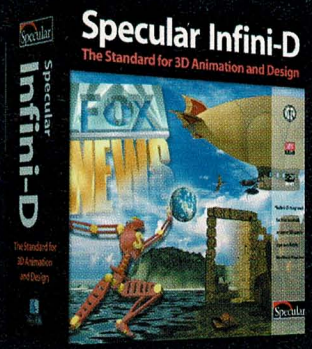

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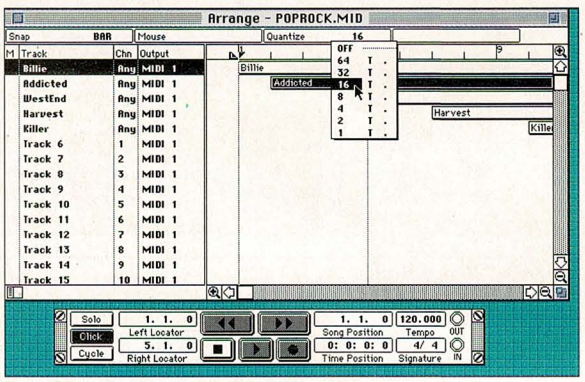
Perfect timing

Ah, the vagaries of human nature. We applaud an accurate musical performance, but if it's *too* accurate we complain. Ian Waugh examines quantisation.

GYMNOPEDIES?
Erik Satie, famous for his *Gymnopedies*, wrote some piano music with timing such that it sounds as if it is being played by a very hesitant beginner.

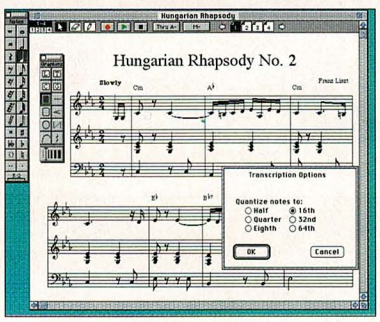
Virtually every sequencer has a quantise function. This pushes and pulls notes onto certain divisions of the beat, and is extremely useful for tidying up notes that you've entered in real-time, particularly if your playing is a little sloppy. For example, if you record a run of 1/16th notes and the timing isn't quite right, you can use quantisation to force each note onto a 1/16th division of the beat – giving a perfect performance.

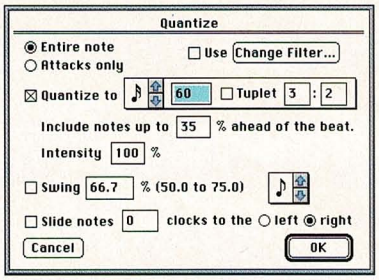
But is it? What we tend to perceive and interpret as 'feel' in a musical performance – often subconsciously – is in fact minute variations in timing. That's why music generated in step-time, and fully-quantised music, is often regarded as lifeless – because it lacks timing variations.



Quantise settings are easy to apply using Cubase Lite. Here a quantise setting is being applied to a track, from the pop-up menu at the top of the window.

To Q or not to Q?

So, to quantise or not to quantise? That is the question. As with most problems, the solution lies somewhere between the two extremes. Once they realised the problems that quantisation could cause, sequencer programmers developed partial quantisation, which is usually set as a percentage and moves notes only a part of the way towards the target beat. For example, a setting of 75% would move notes 75% of the way towards the beat they should be on, which slaps poor timing into line without completely removing the human timing errors we call 'feel'. As always, let your ears be the judge. If a music line is obviously out of whack, apply increasing degrees of partial quantisation until it sounds right.

MusicTime's Transcription Options enables you to select a duration value – notes are quantised to it.



MasterTracks Pro's Quantize dialog box illustrates some of the different quantise settings available – including quantise intensity and swing factors.

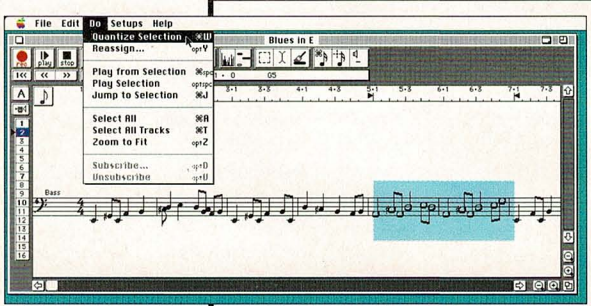
Many sequencers offer quantisation as a track parameter, which means that you don't permanently alter the data, but simply apply the quantisation setting during playback, without losing your original data – known as non-destructive editing. You can usually then make the changes permanent by fixing, normalising or freezing the track.

And you don't have to quantise all the notes in a track. Most sequencers can apply quantisation only to those notes or patterns that you select.

When to quantise

Some types of music do sound better fully quantised. A lot of dance and

HOW TO QUANTISE



MusicShop's Quantise function enables you to quantise just a selected part of the score.

Using Emagic's *Logic* you can apply a quantise value to a track or a sequence from the flip menu in the Track Parameters box to the left of the tracks on the **Arrange** page. You can further modify the quantise settings from the floating Extended Sequence Parameters box, which you open from the **Options** menu in the Arrange page. This includes partial quantise settings, a swing factor, range (to exclude notes), flam (to separate notes in a chord), plus settings to determine by how much the sequence conforms to the current groove.

If you're using Steinberg's *Cubase* family, you can select a basic quantise value for a track or selected part from the **Quantise** pop-up box at the top of the Arrange and Edit pages. Over Quantise is the most musical of the options, and is included in *Cubase Lite*. The full version of *Cubase* has many other quantise options which you can select from the **Functions** menu, including **Note On, Iterative** (a sophisticated form of partial quantisation), **Analytic** (which 'intelligently' analyses the music) and **Match** (which enables you to impose the feel of one part on another one).

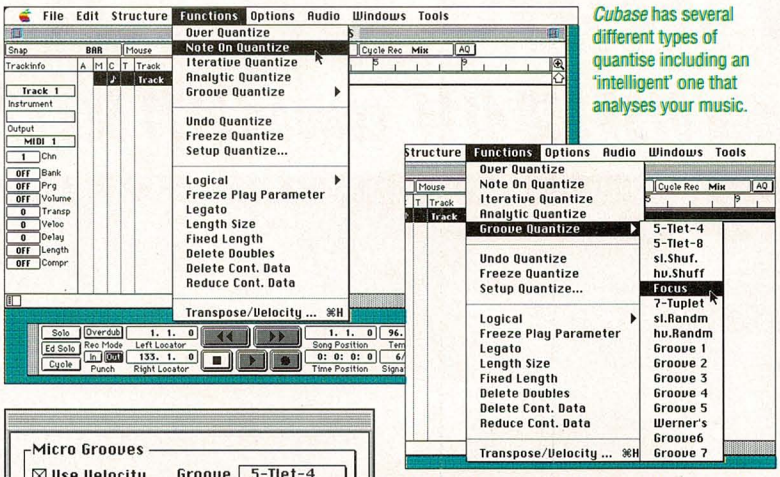
Opcode's *Vision* offers several types of quantise function. Playback quantise is selected at the bottom of the Tracks window. You can permanently change the data by selecting **Quantise** from the **Do** menu. The notation value is selected from the Note Resolution box in the Notation window, and you can set values such as partial quantise, swing settings and so on in the Quantise pop-up window.

When using MotU's *FreeStyle*, go to the Quantise palette to set a swing value and time offset (to move the whole sequence back or forward in time). You can also elect to quantise just the start times or the duration.

Opcode's *MusicShop* enables you to select three quantise settings for display, while you can select playback using the three right-most buttons on the toolbar. To permanently quantise highlighted notes, use **Quantise Selection** in the **Do** menu.

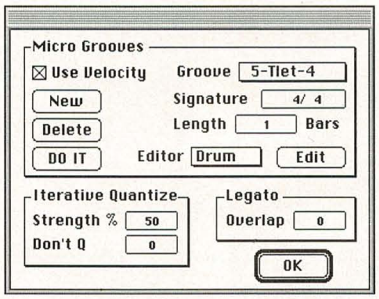
If you're using Passport's *MusicTime*, set quantise values using the Transcription Options dialog box, which you can access from the **Setup** menu. It offers no partial quantise facilities.

MasterTracks Pro: select **Quantise** from the **Change** menu, then set parameters such as swing factor and partial quantise intensity in the box, or use a Change Filter box to set a quantise pattern for the notes. The Humanise function is in the **Change** menu.



Cubase has several different types of quantise including an 'intelligent' one that analyses your music.

Cubase also supports Grooves and comes with several interesting variations all ready to try.



Cubase's Setup Quantise dialogue box is where you enter the parameters that will then be used during the quantise process.

techno music is designed to be played with absolute robotic precision, so you should whack up the quantise to full on the drums, bass and rhythm lines. You may find that lead lines, however, still sound better either unquantised or only partly quantised.

Classical music is a thorny subject as far as quantisation is concerned. You can't have each player in an orchestra doing their own thing, because the timing would be as woolly as a bovid mammal. Plus, orchestral players are trained to play very accurately. So should you quantise classical music? Basically, yes, but even within the constraints of a classical performance there is still scope for 'feel', so try partial quantisation first. Also, try to deal with instruments in groups. If there are several string parts, for example, adjust their timing so that they play together reasonably tightly.

Humanisation

What do you do if you've recorded a part in step-time and it's 100% accurate, with no timing variations at all? Well, some sequencers have a random or humanise function, which moves the notes off the beat by a random amount. At first glance this may seem a good solution, but it's not a universal panacea. You see, the timing variations introduced when a performer is playing with 'feel' are not applied to notes indiscriminately, but to particular notes to help accent phrases and put emphasis on certain notes and beats. They may be applied subconsciously, but there is an order to them that a pure random function cannot duplicate. Still, if you have a step-time line that is really staid, try a touch of randomisation.

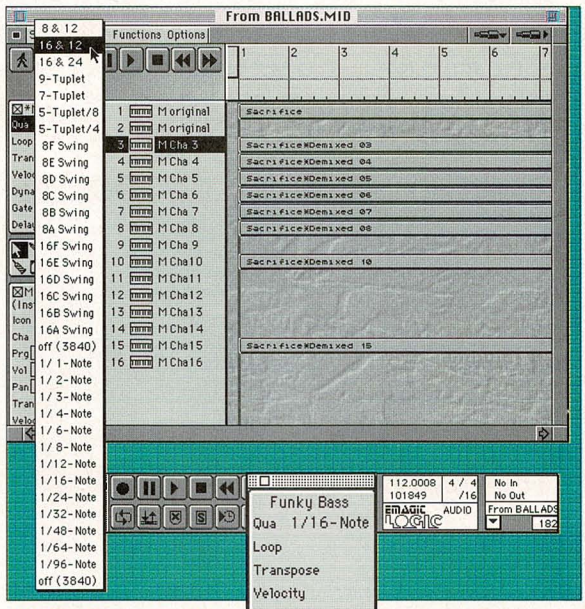
Quantisation for printing

Creating a piece of music that is to be listened to is completely different from creating a piece for printing. A score is 'note perfect' and therefore quantised 100%. But what if you want the same recording to be listened to and printed out? Most sequencers with scoring facilities also have a visual quantise function, which quantises the music display but leaves the actual notes untouched. Sneaky, eh? The visual quantise function does things like remove small rests that may occur between notes and overlaps if you hold down a note too long.

Groovy

Finally, sequencers such as *Cubase*, *Logic* and *Vision* have a Groove function. This is a sort of quantisation, in that it moves the notes around in relation to the beat, but here the purpose is to produce a particular rhythmic pattern rather than simply plonking notes onto the beat. Grooves began with swing, and have since branched out to include all sorts of rhythmic patterns such as shuffles, pushes and triplets. You can even create your own grooves in the higher-end sequencers.

If your sequencer supports grooves, try applying them to a piece of 'straight' music, such as Bach. You'll be surprised how effective it can be. You can use grooves to beef up your bass lines and excite your drum patterns. By judiciously applying a little quantisation you can make your music sound more realistic – however you originally recorded it. **MF**



Using *Logic* you can easily select a quantise value from a flip menu, from the Track Parameters box.

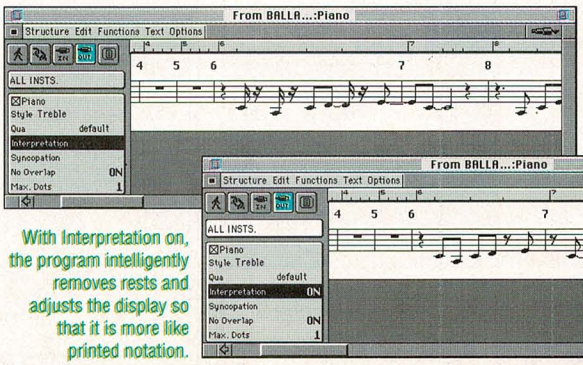
Logic's Extended Sequence parameters floating window contains additional parameters for customising the quantise procedure.

NOT VERY IMPRESSIVE

Two Etudes by György Ligeti, who wrote some of the music for *2001: A Space Odyssey*, were considered too fast and complex to be played by a human pianist, so they were performed by a computer at the recent Composers Festival at the Royal Academy of Music.

SWING, MAN

French pianist Jacques Loussier and his trio became famous for jazzing up pieces of Bach – before sequencers with quantisation or grooves had been invented!



Logic's score editor has an Interpretation function. When it's off the notes appear as they were played...

With Interpretation on, the program intelligently removes rests and adjusts the display so that it is more like printed notation.

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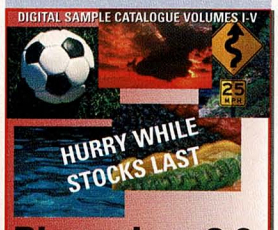

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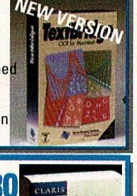

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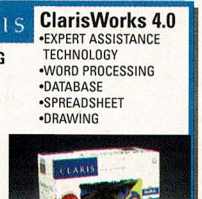

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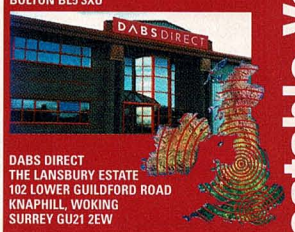

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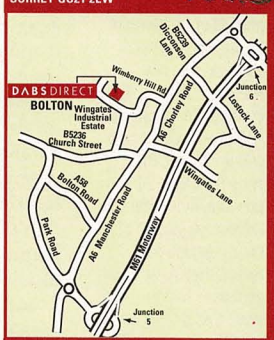

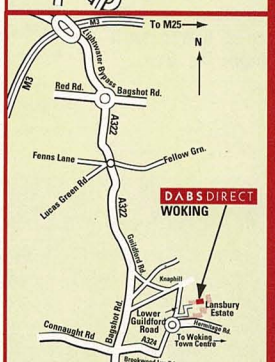

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Data handling

This month Rod Lawton turns the spotlight on *HyperCard's* data handling abilities. Can it really do that much more than a dedicated database program?

For all its multimedia tools and built-in programming language, *HyperCard* started life as a database. A distinctly laid-back and free-form database, to be sure, but still a database.

HyperCard uses fields, cards (records) and stacks (database files) to store information. If you wanted to keep a list of all your friends' names, phone numbers and addresses, you would set up a field for each (in the background layer, so that you could duplicate that card design endlessly), just as you would in an ordinary database. You'd then create a new card each time you added someone to the list.

Dedicated database software does more than this. You can define field 'types' according to the type of information they are to store – for example, text, dates or numbers. You can then carry out calculations or create reports based on all your records, or records that match certain search criteria. For example, a small business could have a database of invoices and regularly locate the unpaid invoices and calculate the total owing. For much more on field types and calculations, see the database tutorial on page 67.

HyperCard can do all of these things, but only if you can use HyperTalk and don't mind programming some of the features. Indeed, *HyperCard* can do much more, but not 'off the peg'.

Judged against existing dedicated database software, *HyperCard* is not that cheap (at around £95, it's more expensive than *FileMaker Pro)* and it's not that effective, either. But if you step back and think about the broader aspects of information storage and retrieval, standard database software offers a very limited solution indeed.

The bigger picture

Standard databases may be fast, flexible and able to handle vast amounts of information, but they have a major failing – the information they store has to fit into a specific format, which invariably means things get left out.

The problem with databases is that if you can't put a fact into a category or assign a field to it, you must eliminate it. What if you're a historian working with a vast number of text files relating to past events and personalities? One day you may want to find all references to iron-age dwellings in Somerset, another day you may want to find out where Barnes-Wallis was born. If you try to work with a standard database package you will hit two major problems:

1. You'll have to omit information that may be significant in the future;
2. You'll have to create dozens, maybe hundreds, of different database designs to cope with the variety of questions you're likely to want answered.

What you need in cases like this is software that can extract information from the data you already have, not software that requires you to edit it and force it into a different format.

HyperCard to the rescue!

If you do need to extract information from many sources and different types of document, an ordinary database won't help you. But *HyperCard,* with a little HyperTalk programming, can, because of three vital features:

1. The HyperTalk 'read' command can open any file;
2. HyperTalk can search files for specific words or phrases extremely quickly;
3. Using HyperTalk, you can extract the names of files where any matching text is found, or the text itself, or the surrounding text, or even the whole file itself.

The text search stack

To illustrate *HyperCard's* potential as a file searching tool, we created a simple stack that (a) loads files into memory, (b) enables you to check them for specific text strings, (c) displays the found text and some of the text around it, and (d) enables you to add the name of the current file to a list which you can print. This isn't a complicated stack. Only the buttons have scripts, and their functions don't interrelate in any complex fashion. The stack itself is illustrated opposite with an outline of the scripts used for each button.

Ordinary databases store data in precise, structured records that insist on the right data in the right format. But what if your data already exists elsewhere in a different – or freeform – format?

VARIABLES AND FIELDS

Because this stack loads files into a variable rather than a field, you can't use *HyperCard's* 'Find' function and its variants – you have to make do with the 'is in' operator and the 'offset' function. This 'variable' approach is solely to accommodate large files and to make the stack ultra-fast.

FORMATTING WOES

Some of the scripts printed in MACFORMAT 28 were formatted wrongly (the text reflowed, okay?). The continuation character ¬ is supposed to help you spot lines that should be typed in on one line, even though the column width of the magazine has meant they have to be split over two or more. Well, this time it went a bit wrong – sorry. We'll do our best to stop it happening again.

OTHER FEATURES YOU COULD ADD

Simple though it is, this stack is still a fast and efficient search engine. Since HyperTalk can read practically any file except a Mac application file, it can be used to search READ.MEs, *QuarkXPress* files, *WordPerfect* files – no file format is too alien to yield to its penetrating gaze. It won't work on compressed or archived files, because these need to be decompressed first, but this is the only limitation you're likely to come across.

If you wanted to improve this stack, here are some suggestions:

- Set up a field to keep a list of all the phrases you've searched for so far – then you won't waste time repeating searches at a later date
- If you do have a list of phrases you have already searched for, attach a script that enables you to click on a phrase to look for it in any new file you load
- You could extend the script of the **Check contents** button so that, when a match is found, users are asked if they want to open the file using an application of their choice
- If you're dealing with bizarre, troublesome file formats, get your stack to export the file. The new file is in an ASCII format that any word processing application can read.

How do you do that? Well, it is fantastically complicated, but... here goes:

```
on mouseUp
  global openfile
  ask "Choose a filename"
  put it into filename
  open file filename
  write openfile to file filename
  close file filename
end mouseUp
```

Just attach this script to a button and it will generate a new text file in your *HyperCard* application folder. You can even modify the script so that you can choose a destination, or save the new file in the same folder as the old one automatically.

A word of warning. Not only is the above script incredibly simple, it's also incredibly fast. You won't believe it's actually done anything until you've checked your hard disk for the new file.

Inspect file

```
on mouseUp
   global openfile
   put empty into openfile
   answer file "Choose a file"
   put it into filename
   open file filename
   repeat until it is empty
     read from file filename for 1600
     put it after openfile
   end repeat
   close file filename
   put filename into card field "filename"
   put openfile into card field "text"
end mouseUp
```

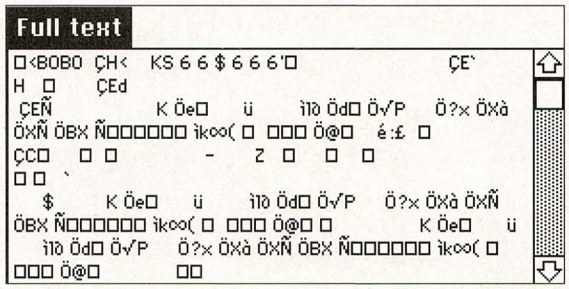
Before you can search a file, you must load it into *HyperCard*. The 'read' command deals with a maximum of 1,600 characters at once, so the script above uses a repeat loop to read chunks of the file in sequence and adds each chunk to the variable 'openfile' until the variable contains the whole file.

Note that because other buttons need to access this file, 'openfile' has to be declared as a global variable, otherwise it is emptied just as soon as the script has finished running.

Once the file is loaded into 'openfile', the script stores its filename in the card field 'filename', so you can always see on-screen which file you're examining. The script also puts the contents of 'openfile' into the card field 'text'. A single *HyperCard* field can contain a maximum of 32,000 characters – if your file contains more than this, you can't read the overflowing text in this field (but the search functions still work because all the text is still there in the variable).

Since HyperTalk's 'read' command can read just about any file, you can expect to get some gibberish at the beginning and end. Just scroll down the 'text' field until you find the start of the actual text.

Full text



Since HyperTalk's 'read' command can read practically any file of any type, expect to see some gibberish in front of the text itself.

NEXT MONTH

Although this stack carries out searches quickly, you still have to manually select and load each file you want to check. There's no way round this in *HyperCard*, but there is in AppleScript... and since version 2.2, *HyperCard* has supported AppleScript. Next month we'll develop this stack to search whole folders automatically...

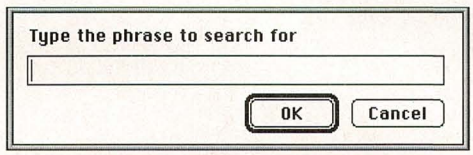
Check contents

```
on mouseUp
   global openfile
   ask "Type the phrase to search for"
   if it is not in openfile then
     beep
     exit mouseup
   else
     play harpsichord c7
     get offset(it,openfile)
     put char it-50 to it+50 of openfile into card field ¬
     "check contents"
     answer "Do you want to record this file?" with "No" or "Yes"
     if it is "Yes" then put card field "filename" into line (the ¬
     number of lines in card field "report" + 1) of card field "report"
   end if
end mouseUp
```

This button asks you for a phrase to search for and then uses HyperTalk's 'is in' operator to check whether the loaded file contains it. This is *very* fast. The script responds with a beep if the phrase isn't found and exits. If the phrase is there, it plays a different sound and puts 100 characters from the file (50 characters either side of the start of the phrase) into the 'check contents' field so that you can see if what's been found is relevant.

If it is, you then get the chance to record the name of the file in the 'report' field before choosing new files to search.

Note that once a file is in memory, you can click on the **Check contents** button as often as you like, changing the phrase you're looking for each time.



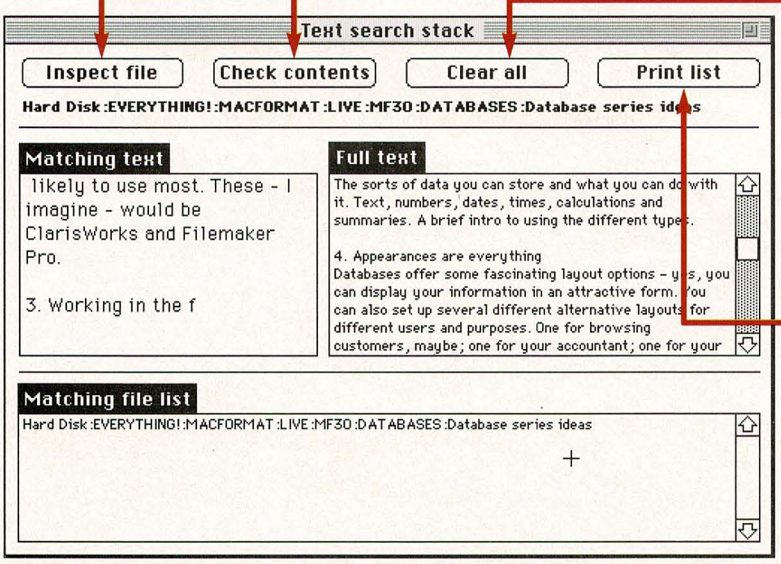
This is the dialogue you see when you click on the **Check contents** button. Type in the word or phrase you want to look for (it's not case-sensitive) and click **OK**.

Matching text

likely to use most. These - I imagine - would be ClarisWorks and Filemaker Pro.

3. Working in the f

If the file does contain the word or phrase you're looking for, it will be displayed in this field, together with surrounding text (to help you see it in context).


Text search stack
Inspect file
Check contents
Clear all
Print list
Hard Disk :EVERYTHING! :MACFORMAT :LIVE :MF30 :DATABASES :Database series ideas
Matching text
likely to use most. These - I imagine - would be ClarisWorks and Filemaker Pro.
3. Working in the f
Full text
The sorts of data you can store and what you can do with it. Text, numbers, dates, times, calculations and summaries. A brief intro to using the different types.
4. Appearances are everything
Databases offer some fascinating layout options – yes, you can display your information in an attractive form. You can also set up several different alternative layouts for different users and purposes. One for browsing customers, maybe; one for your accountant; one for your
Matching file list
Hard Disk :EVERYTHING! :MACFORMAT :LIVE :MF30 :DATABASES :Database series ideas

This is the stack we developed to demonstrate *HyperCard's* searching abilities. To create an identical stack, just create the same buttons (use the scripts accompanying this tutorial) and note the names of the fields you need to create to work alongside them. This stack reads external files and checks them for a chosen phrase, storing their names for future reference if required.

Clear all

```
on mouseUp
   repeat with i=1 to the number ¬
   of card fields
     put empty into card field i
   end repeat
end mouseUp
```

If you just quit *HyperCard*, next time you access it, the screen contains what you were doing last time. This button clears all the fields so that you can start afresh.

Print list

```
on mouseUp
   print card field "report"
end mouseUp
```

Another simple one. Click on this to send the list of filenames you've accumulated to your printer.

Gasteiner

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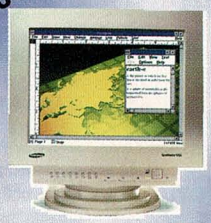

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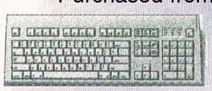

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MAC ANSWERS

Just occasionally... not very often, we know, but every now and then, you might perhaps maybe experience a teeny problem with your Mac. We're here to help.

Welcome to the section of MACFORMAT dedicated to solving your Mac problems. This month's experts are Simon Cox, Jim Chandler and Keith Sanders. If you have a question you'd like us to tackle, use the form on page 82 or e-mail us at **macformat@futurenet.co.uk** including full details, and please put the word 'MacAnswers' in the Subject field of your message. Unfortunately, we can't answer queries over the phone, because our experts are freelances and nobody who actually works here knows anything really...

Choosy drive?

HARDWARE

Q *My CD drive keeps ejecting CD-ROMs a few seconds after they are inserted. I have tried everything, including rebuilding my Desktop, restarting with Extensions off, etc. Any ideas?*

Paul Dean
Bradley Stoke, Bristol

A Unfortunately this sounds like a hardware problem, but there are a few things you can try. First, check all connections to the drive. Replug all the leads and check that the SCSI chain is terminated properly. (For an explanation of what this involves, see the troubleshooting book free with last issue. If you missed that, turn to page 125 to order a back issue.) If it is an external CD drive, try the drive with another Macintosh.

If that all works, then check that the door of the CD caddy opens properly. To do this, turn the caddy upside down and try moving the door. It should move easily to either side. If not, then try another caddy. Assuming the caddy works properly, then the CD drive's laser lens may be dirty. The simplest way to clean this is to buy a cleaning CD designed for audio CD players. If none of this works, I'm afraid you'll have to take the drive to a dealer for repairs. **SC**

Font Corruptjhåb@vkjn

FONTS

Q *I am unable to access eight fonts from my Fonts folder. Whenever I try to open one or throw it out, the Mac says an error of type -39 occurred. I've noticed that the eight troublesome fonts are all adjacent alphabetically, and that they all begin with the letter M. I do have a lot of fonts loaded – is that the problem?*

Toby Rushton
London SW5

A There is a limit to how many fonts you can have in your Fonts folder at once (128, since you ask), but I think all that's happened here is that your fonts have become damaged. Exceeding the 128-item limit shouldn't result in an error message, and an error of type -39 typically indicates that a file is damaged.

The first thing to try is moving the entire Fonts folder out of your System folder. The little letter symbol on it should disappear, showing that it is no longer active. Try to remove the faulty fonts now.

If this doesn't work, the best way to fix the problem is to create a new folder, called Fonts, in another directory (that is, not inside your System folder), and move all of your fonts, except the damaged ones, to it. Next, move your original Fonts folder to the Wastebasket, then restart your Mac. Once you can get back to the Desktop, put the new Fonts folder into the System folder, and reinstall the damaged fonts from scratch. Now you'll be able to empty the Wastebasket and delete the corrupt fonts.

In view of the fact that so many fonts are damaged, and that they all begin with M, it may be that your System is also damaged in some way, so it would be prudent to reinstall your System and Finder too. To ensure that you don't have any damaged System resources left to spread further nastiness, drag your System and Finder files to the Wastebasket and restart the Mac with the first Install disk in the drive. This should enable you to do a 'clean install'. For more details, see the troubleshooting book free with last month's MACFORMAT.

Oh, and if you must have a lot of fonts, you should think about investing in a font-management utility such as *Suitcase* (around £60; for details contact Principal on 01706 832000). Or you can cheat a bit: you can't have more than 128 items *loose* in the Fonts folder, but you can have several different fonts *within any font suitcase* in the Fonts folder, and all the fonts should still be accessible in your programs. (Don't put the Fonts folder itself inside any other folders, though – it must

Continued on next page

WHO'S JIM CHANDLER?

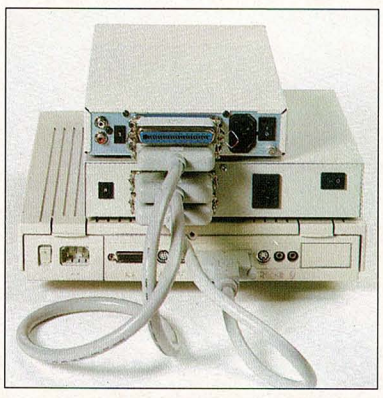
Jim has been working in the professional printing industry for eight years, and uses all the major software applications on both Macs and PC compatibles.

WHO'S KEITH SANDERS?

Keith works in technical support. He spends his days solving Mac problems for clients, and his evenings solving yours.

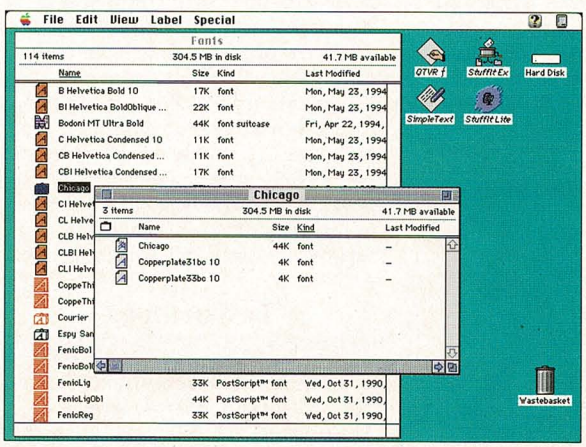
WHO'S SIMON COX?

Simon is a real computer boffin, with a PhD in computer science, and has been using Apples since the original Lisa.

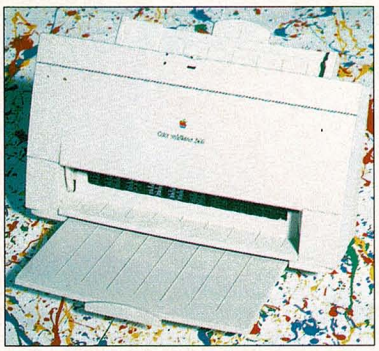


If you have several SCSI devices daisychained, make sure the chain is properly terminated.

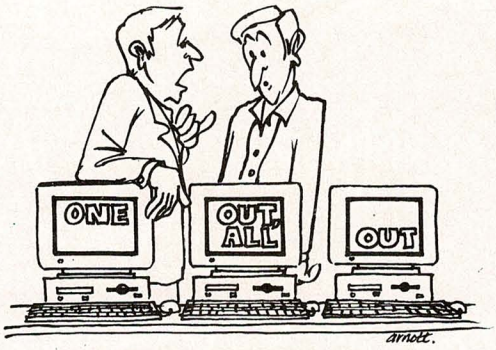
'It's not slow as such. It's more like it just can't be bothered.'



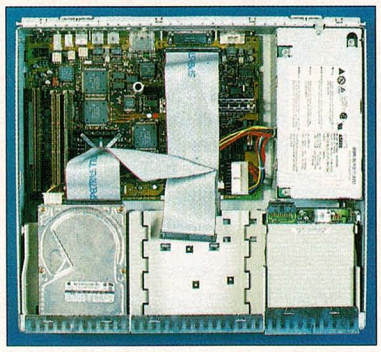
There's a limit to how many items you can have in your Fonts folder, but did you know you could put several different fonts within one font suitcase and still access them in your programs?



Lovely machine, the StyleWriter. Nice crisp output, even colour on the newer models. But it's not a PostScript machine, so it has trouble with output from programs like *QuarkXPress*.



'When we networked them they formed a union and went on strike.'



Startup settings are stored in a special sector of RAM controlled by a battery – that's it hiding under the red and yellow wires towards the right. But what happens when the battery starts to fail?

BROKEN MOUSE?

If you want to (or need to), you can navigate your way around Finder windows or the Desktop itself without ever needing to touch your mouse. The arrow keys enable you to select the next icon in each direction; **[command]** plus the **[down]** arrow key moves you to the next level down the folder hierarchy, opening the currently highlighted folder if it is not already open. If a file is highlighted, it launches the relevant application.

CLOSE SESAME

On the Desktop, **[Command]** plus the **[up]** arrow moves you back a level in the folder hierarchy (that is, back to the folder that contains the folder you were in), but it doesn't close the previously active window. **[Command] W** does. **[Command] [option] W** closes all open windows.

stay 'loose' – that is, on the first level – in the System folder.) **JC**

Not very Stylish Writer

PRINTING

Q *I've tried to import my drawings and designs from* Aldus FreeHand 3.1 *into* QuarkXPress 3.11, *but they give lousy printouts on my StyleWriter. I've tried every possibility for export, including TIFF, PICT, Publish & Subscribe and so on.*
Hallvard Opheim
Bergen, Norway

A You've got a classic case of trying to print PostScript graphics on a non-PostScript printer. PostScript is a 'page-description language' devised by Adobe – each page you output is sent to the printer in the form of instructions for how to 'draw' every element on the page. The catch is that the printer needs to have a processor in it that can interpret these instructions. Non-PostScript printers don't work the same way – instead the programs on your Mac simply send them a bitmap image of the page to print, more or less dot-by-dot.

FreeHand produces graphics for output on PostScript devices. It's not so good at producing bitmap versions of its own graphics, which is what TIFF and PICT files are. What's more, *QuarkXPress* is not exactly renowned for its ability to print out on non-PostScript printers.

Unfortunately, your StyleWriter just can't cope with all the PostScript-based stuff that's being thrown at it. Your best bet would be to get hold of a PostScript printer of some kind (typically, these will be laser printers). Failing this, try putting your graphics together in another application if you have one. If you only need simple graphics, the drawing section of *ClarisWorks* may be enough, and it can save in real vector PICT files that your StyleWriter can handle cheerfully. **JC**

Lost settings

PARAMETER RAM

Q *Ever since I installed System 7.5 onto my Mac LCIII I have to open the Mouse Control Panel every time I start up and reset the mouse speed to fastest. I've tried starting up with Extensions off, and I've tried zapping the Parameter RAM and rebuilding the Desktop, but nothing seems to solve the problem.*
N Moutsakis
via FutureNet

A Startup settings such as the mouse speed you've selected are saved in a section of RAM called Parameter RAM or PRAM, which is battery-controlled so that they are preserved when you shut down. Many things can 'scramble' the PRAM – installing new chips and upgrading your version of the System being two of the most notorious. You can 'zap' (reset) the PRAM by holding down **[command] [option] P R** as you restart, but in fact this doesn't reset every single parameter in the PRAM. The first thing to try is zapping the PRAM *three times*, immediately after one another. If this doesn't work, try zapping it using a utility designed to purge the PRAM completely, such as *Tech Tool* (it's shareware, and was yours on last issue's MACFORMAT CD-ROM).

If none of this does the trick, the fault you describe could indicate that the battery which maintains the PRAM is either faulty or just needs replacing. You can buy the correct replacement battery from an Apple dealer for around £10 to£15, and replacing it is simple:

1. Make sure your Mac is unplugged and open the top of the case by releasing the two clips at the rear.
2. Locate the battery holder on the motherboard – it looks just like a holder with a battery in it. Insert a small screwdriver into the clips at each end to release the top cover that keeps the battery in place.
3. You should now be able to pop the old battery out and replace it with the new one. Refit the cover over the battery housing – you should hear it click into place to confirm that it has been fitted correctly.
4. Fit the top of the case back on, plug everything in and restart. You'll have

TALKING TO THE WORLD

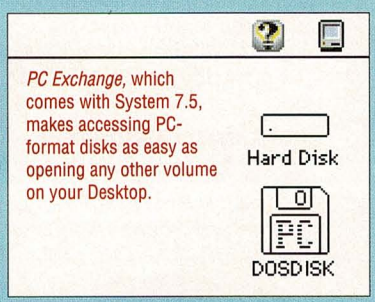
Coming right up

COMPATIBILITY

Q ***I use a Mac at work, and I'm thinking about a Mac for personal use. I have an Atari ST which I'm looking to replace. Is there any software to convert my text data from ST to Mac?***
Michael Huzan
Sherwood, Nottingham

A You need a word processor or text editor on your ST that can save files in straight ASCII format. Most Mac word processors will handle ASCII files – you'll lose the formatting of your text, but at least you won't have to type it all in again. The only slightly tricky part is transferring the data to the Mac.

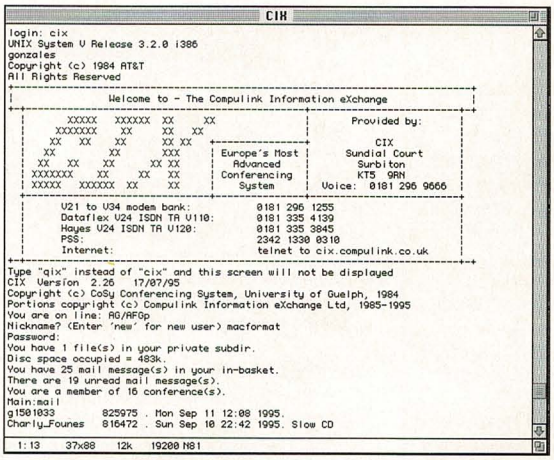
Luckily, the ST and the Mac can both share PC-formatted disks. New Macs come with *PC Exchange*, which enables you to read, write and format PC disks on the Mac, and the ST can read 720K PC-format disks with no bother. Simply format a double-density disk on the Mac as a PC-format disk, take it to your ST and copy your text files to it in ASCII format. Then take it back to the Mac, open up the text files in a Mac word processor, reapply the relevant formatting, and you're away! **JC**


PC Exchange, which comes with System 7.5, makes accessing PC-format disks as easy as opening any other volume on your Desktop.
Hard Disk
DOSDISK

Graphic details

COMPATIBILITY

Q *I own a 4Mb Mac Classic and also an Amiga A1200. Is there a simple way of transferring graphics and text between them? I am considering purchasing* Photoshop.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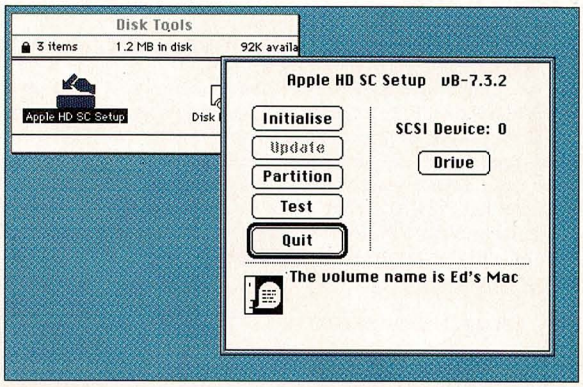
Charly_Fournes 816472 . Sun Sep 10 22:42 1995. Slow CD
1:13 37x88 12k 19200 N81

On-line services like CIX offer you e-mail facilities, plus other features such as conferencing or full Internet access. Don't expect all areas to be as graphic as the World Wide Web, though...



HD Setup, supplied on the Disk Tools disk that came with your System disks, has basic testing and formatting functions, but only for Apple's hard disks.

to reset all your preferred settings, but from then on you should find that they are saved properly. **KS**

A hard bargain?

HARDWARE

Q *I got a 340Mb Quantum Pro Drive LPS340 from a 'DOS friend'. I tried it on my Mac but my Mac did not recognise it. I did try to format the drive with Apple's* HD Setup *but with no luck. I spoke to a dealer, who said the disk had to be 'low-level formatted'. Is there a shareware or public domain application that can do this?*
Ben Boon
Holland

A Unfortunately, we do not know of any free or shareware software that can perform this task. Apple's *HD Setup* application (which is included on the System disks you got with your Mac) only works with hard disks that Apple have used in their machines. When it first accesses a SCSI disk drive, it finds out the model number and checks if it is one that Apple have used. There is an 'updater' in the public domain which is supposed to alter *HD Setup* so that it recognises any hard disk drive, but we haven't had much success using this. The best alternative is to purchase either Apple's *Hard Disk Toolkit* or the *Spot On* driver software – ask your dealer. **SC**

The postman rings once

COMMS

Q *I occasionally wish to to able to use e-mail via my Mac at home, but I can't justify the expense of the many companies who offer many other services bundled with e-mail. Is there a cheaper option available for us penny-pinching Mac-owning types?*
Nigel J Osborn
Penn, Buckinghamshire

A The short answer is no, you can't just subscribe to an e-mail service. E-mail is a function of access to a server, and what you're paying for is that access, not usually what particular use you make of it.

In general, two types of companies offer e-mail. On-line services, like CIX, CompuServe and eWorld, all offer Internet mail and access in addition to their own services. The other companies are Internet service providers, like Cityscape and Demon, who offer Internet access without any proprietary conferencing services. In either case, once you have e-mail access to the Internet, you might as well take advantage of other services, like Usenet News and the World Wide Web. Service providers can't afford not to offer access to these fast-growing areas, so it looks like you're stuck with having to pay to have the whole lot. (But that's no bad thing – see this issue's cover feature for just a taste of what it offers!)

There is one possible alternative. If both you and the person you want to send a message to have a fax-modem, you can send a fax direct from your word processor to the recipient's Desk-

FAST FINGERS

To move quickly to a given item in a long list, either in a Finder window or within a dialogue box, type the first letter (or first few letters) of its name. This works even when most of the items aren't visible on-screen, and can save you having to scroll down the list.

Continued on next page

Can I attach a colour monitor to my Classic so that I can work in colour?
M I Kelly
Dundonald, Northern Ireland

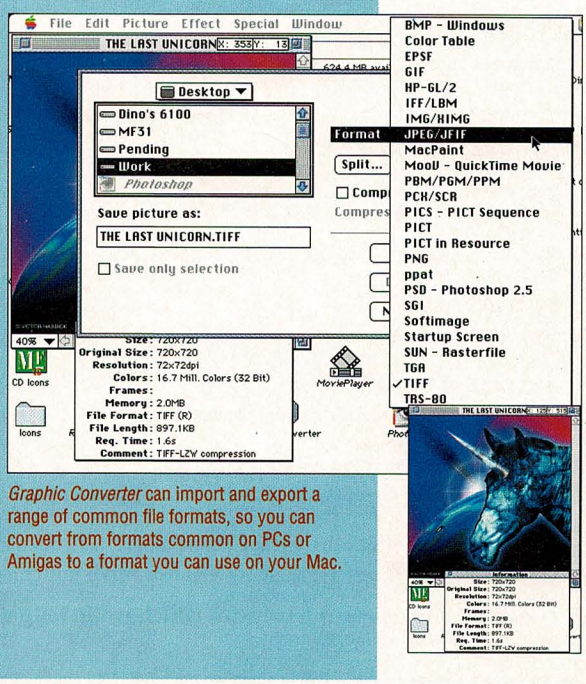
A We'll give you the bad news first. There is no way that you can run *Photoshop* on your Classic. While it is possible to attach a colour screen to a Classic via a video adaptor that plugs into the SCSI port, the real problem is that *Photoshop* requires at least a 68020 processor, which means that the minimum machine it can run on is an LC. Your Classic's 68000 chip is simply not up to the job.

Photoshop also demands a lot of memory to run – 6Mb free is the quoted minimum, but you need over 8Mb if you want to actually do anything and, without quite a bit more RAM, many operations will be slow even on fast machines like Quadras.

If you still want to transfer files between your Mac and your Amiga, there are two ways you can accomplish this. First, you could connect the two machines with a serial cable and run a file transfer application such as *Kermit*, which is widely available for both Amiga and Mac. But this would be an unnecessary hassle.

The easier method would be to use PC-formatted disks, which both Macs and A1200s can read and write to. On the Mac you need to use a transfer program such as *Apple File Exchange* (supplied with many earlier Macs) or *PC Exchange* (included with System 7.5).

The format of the files that you're transferring is also important. Plain ASCII text should be no trouble; however, if you're using files formatted in an Amiga word processor, you may find that some of the formatting gets garbled in the process. When you're transferring graphics between the two you may also experience some problems, depending on the format you used. There are a number of Mac applications that can convert between various graphics formats, including the excellent shareware *Graphic Converter*, which is on this issue's Cover CD-ROM. **SC**



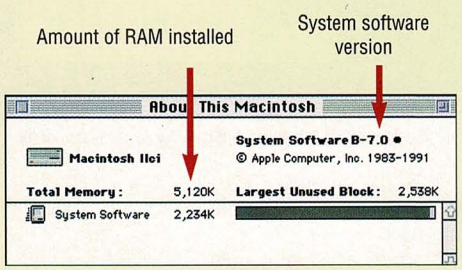
Graphic Converter can import and export a range of common file formats, so you can convert from formats common on PCs or Amigas to a format you can use on your Mac.

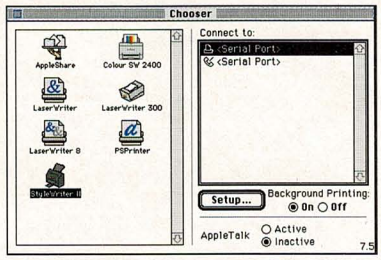
The do-it-yourself problem solving guide...

One of the most common causes of problems on the Macintosh is Extensions or Control Panels clashing in the depths of your System Folder. Fortunately, it's easy for you to check if this is the case. Restart your Mac and hold down the **[shift]** key. You can let go of the key when you see the message, 'Welcome to Macintosh. Extensions off.' If everything now works, then you know that the problem lies in your System Folder. The only way to work out which item is the culprit is by trial and error. Remove a few Extensions and/or Control Panels, then restart your Mac, without holding **[shift]** this time. Keep on doing this until the problem no longer occurs, and you have located the offending software.

If this doesn't work, another common solution is to rebuild your Desktop. Start up your Mac with **[command]** and **[option]** held down. You will get a message asking if you want to rebuild the Desktop. Click OK, wait for it to finish rebuilding your Desktop, and see if this solves your problem.

If the problem persists then use the form below to ask our experts. We'll need to know a few facts about your Mac, so when you're in the Finder, select About This Macintosh from the Apple Menu. The picture (left) shows what we'll need to know.





When you select a printer from the Chooser, you can switch Background Printing on or off. Set it on and you can carry on working while you print.

SORTED!

If viewing the contents of a folder in order of name, size, kind, label and date still isn't enough for you, try adding different characters before the item names. A name starting with a space gets sorted before 'A' – play around with others and see what you get.

top. It's not quite e-mail, and you can't communicate with just anyone, but you can at least send a message with graphics, laid out as you like. **JC**

Jump those queues

PRINTING

Q *My StyleWriter has developed a problem. Instead of stacking up printing jobs and doing them while I work on something else, now it will only take one document at a time. I have to wait until it has finished printing before I can do anything else, which is wasting a lot of my time.*

Also, can my son contact MACFORMAT *using his friend's PC and modem on the Internet? We don't have one on our Mac.*

Anne & Ian Waters
Carnforth, Lancashire

A The problem does not seem to be with your StyleWriter. It sounds like background printing has been switched off on your Mac. To switch it back on, go to the Chooser (in the Apple Menu), select the StyleWriter printer driver and ensure the 'Background Printing' option is set to 'on'.

It's not clear, though, why this has suddenly switched off. Have you reinstalled the StyleWriter driver software recently, or trashed any of the Preferences files in your System folder? Your *Print Monitor* file (the application that handles background printing) is in the Extensions folder in your System folder, which is correct place. If you can't get background printing to work, *Print Monitor* itself may have become corrupted – try reinstalling it and see if that solves the problem.

As far as PC Internet access is concerned, there's good news. The Internet is not machine-specific: you can connect to it using Mac, PC or many other types of computer. If your son's friend has a World Wide Web browser, he can find the MACFORMAT site at **http://www.futurenet.co.uk/computing/macformat/**. If he wants to send electronic mail, he should address his missives to **macformat@futurenet.co.uk**. A complex of translation protocols, servers and mysterious processes will ensure that it gets to us in a form we can read! **JC**

If you send in a question for the MACFORMAT experts to solve, please fill in and include this form (or a copy of it). And please make sure that you include all the relevant details – version numbers of software and so on – so that we have the best chance of helping you. Send your form and question to: **Mac Answers, MACFORMAT, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW. Or fax it to us on 01225 446019.**

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Your Mac
(For example, Performa 200, IIfx, PowerBook 145):

.....

System version
(see About this Macintosh screenshot above): .....

Amount of RAM
(see About this Macintosh screenshot above): .....

Are you using Virtual Memory? ..... **YES/NO**
(This is accessed from the Memory Control Panel under System 7)

Do you have 32-bit addressing turned on? ..... **YES/NO**
(This is accessed from the Memory Control Panel under System 7)

Details of any relevant hardware which could help us to answer your question:

.....

.....

Now, use this space to describe your problem or question.

Please include as much relevant information as possible, and continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

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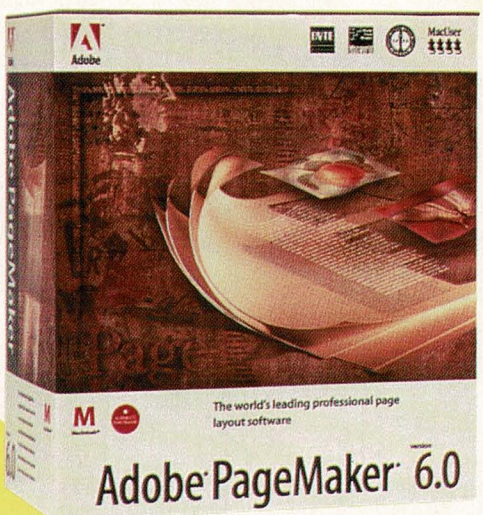
- Adobe Type Manager



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Alternative Inputs

The mouse is fast becoming outdated technology, but what exactly do trackballs, optical mice, touchpads and the rest have to offer? Rod Lawton investigates.

Mice are shipped as standard with all desktop Macs, and we're all used to controlling the on-screen cursor using this simple but effective device. The standard Mac mouse is a masterpiece of elegant simplicity – with its uncluttered one-button design you can control the myriad functions offered by the Mac and its applications.

But can the Apple mouse be improved on? It most certainly can. Not only is the standard Mac mouse limited as a control device, there are situations where it's either unusable or completely impractical. PowerBook users, for example, have no use for a mouse. The whole point of a portable computer is that you use it when you don't have a desk to work on, and without a desk (or similar flat, stable surface), you can't use a mouse. Instead each PowerBook has a trackball (or trackpad) built into the keyboard.

Trackballs?

A trackball works like an upside-down mouse – as the ball moves, it rotates rollers and switches, which control the movement of the on-screen cursor. When you use a mouse, the ball is moved as you move the mouse around your desk, whereas with a trackball, the ball is moved by your fingers or hand. Many people prefer trackballs to mice, to the extent that there's a big market in plug-in trackballs for desktop Macs.

Trackballs and third-party mice also overcome another weakness in the Mac's design. Although it's nice and simple to have a one-button mouse, that single button does have to cover a lot of territory – you have to learn to single-click, double-click and drag. We take these skills for granted, but how often have you waited for an application to launch, then realised you only single-clicked it? Or have you noticed how, when you're using the freehand tool in a paint package, the extra pressure on the mouse from holding down the button can make its movement sticky and jerky. And it's just a tiny bit annoying when you drag through a text document, selecting reams and reams of text, only to accidentally release the mouse button before you've finished, and have to do it all again.

Just sit back

Third-party trackballs (and mice) usually offer extra buttons, which you can set up to provide a 'double-click' with just one click, and they often include a drag-lock function (which also makes selecting menu options much easier). You may also get

IF YOU WANT TO BE REALLY ALTERNATIVE

The Apple Adjustable keyboard (reviewed on page 86) is a fairly dramatic variant on the standard Mac keyboard, but other suppliers also offer extended keyboards, which offer function keys and rejigged cursor keys. Microspeed (0171 720 0592) offer a wide range of Mac keyboards, mice and trackballs.

If you can't face the expense of a touchscreen monitor, you can get a touchscreen overlay from Ellinor (01734 311066). They also manufacture a monitor stand which (strange, but true) achieves the same effect.

The ALPS Glidepoint, reviewed here, comes in two other forms, either built into a keyboard or built into an external numeric keypad (call Rotech on 01604 763611 for more info).

Or, if you fancy the Thinking Mouse's programmability in a trackball, the Turbo Mouse is a four-button trackball that uses the same software (call the Mac Accessory Centre on 0191 295 0353). Should you instead fancy a smaller trackball, but with excellent build quality, take a look at the PlusWare trackball (call Mygate Computing on 0181 318 1424).

Microspeed offer a wide range of extended keyboards and trackballs, and several breeds of mouse.

An extended keyboard with built-in Glidepoint. The things they can do with technology, eh?

some degree of programmability in your new device – see the individual reviews for more details.

With a trackball you can also sit back and control your pointer from the comfort of your favourite armchair – not much use if you periodically need to enter text or keyboard commands, but great for multimedia software. Trackballs aren't the only answer for armchair fans, though. The DataPad (on page 88) is an excellent solution for spreadsheet users who don't want to spend their time hunched over a keyboard.

Meanwhile, external control devices like trackballs are great for point-of-sale units in shops, enabling customers to navigate through and select products from an on-screen catalogue, and find out more information. Using a trackball you can allow customers limited control over the computer, which also means you can shut the computer away safely in a locked cabinet.

It's shrewd to point

An even better point-of-sale solution is a touch-screen monitor. Most customers won't be familiar with trackballs or indeed any other form of input device, but everyone knows how to point at something they want. If your software is set up to respond to screen input, you can lead your customers through a catalogue of products or an interactive presentation without them having to lift a finger. Well, not more than one finger at a time, anyway.

There are many ways of controlling your on-screen pointer and entering information into your Mac. We look at ten different products here, but see the Alternatives box for more ideas.

TOUCHMATE

Rather than investing in a new monitor, you could just use the TouchMate – a 'force sensing platform', which converts any monitor you place upon it into a touch monitor. It's widely used in public information booths, and costs £763.75. Call Ellinor Touch Technology on 01734 311066 for more info.

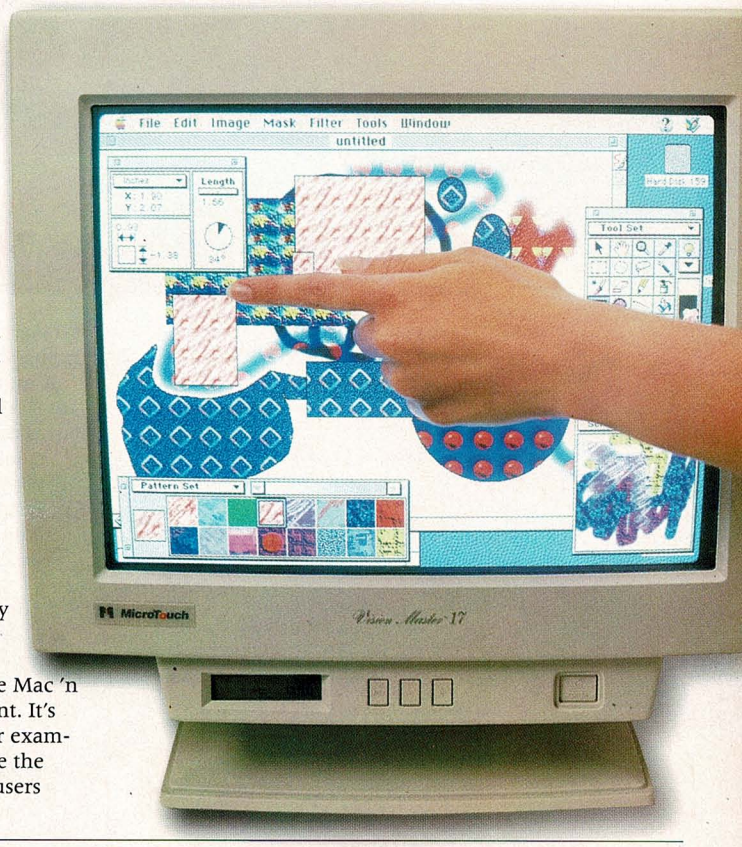
Continued on next page

Touchscreen monitor

The 17-inch Mac 'n Touch from MicroTouch is easy to install – you connect it to your Macintosh like any other monitor, but you also plug its ADB lead into one of the ADB sockets on the back of your Macintosh (some Macs only have one ADB port, but the Mac 'n Touch is supplied with an ADB splitter for those models). The monitor lead also needs an adaptor for Mac use, available from MicroTouch.

Judged purely as a monitor, the Mac 'n Touch is a good performer. It needs setting up initially, and this can be fiddly, but once you've set it up properly it offers good colour, contrast and definition. The next job is to calibrate the touch settings, and the Control Panel has adjustments for button actions (finger taps represent clicks and you can also drag), cursor offset (after all, if the pointer is right under your finger you'll never see it) and general calibration. There is also a general diagnostics utility for when things don't quite go as expected.

Once everything's set up, the Mac 'n Touch's performance is excellent. It's ideal for point-of-sale units, for example, where you want to provide the simplest possible interface for users and save display space.



TOUCHSCREEN MONITOR

Price: £1,680. **Out:** now.
Requires: any colour Mac.
Contact: MicroTouch on 01844 260123.

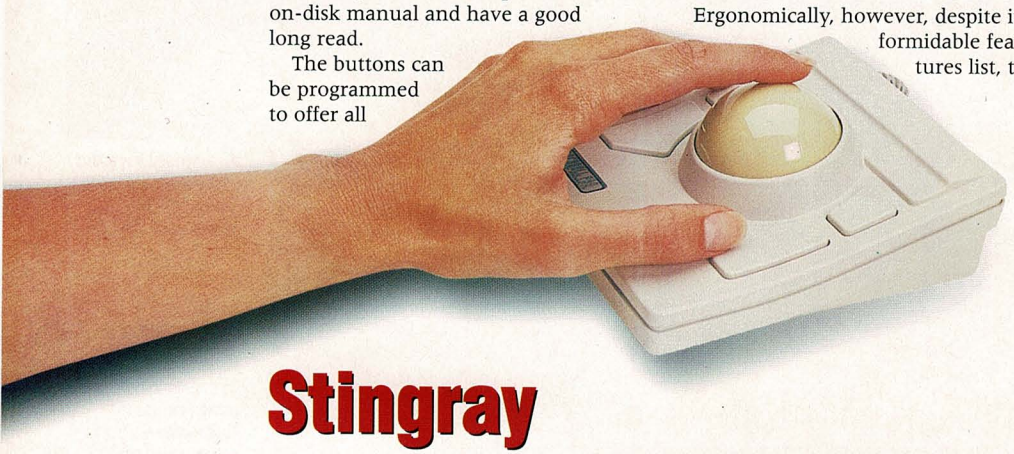
Trackball Pro

This is the trackball for serious professional users. Its sheer size indicates the number of features it packs – the super-huge central trackball is surrounded by four buttons, each of which can be programmed independently. To use all the features it offers, you must first install the Control Panel software provided, then print out the on-disk manual and have a good long read.

The buttons can be programmed to offer all sorts of capabilities. You can set the buttons to emulate a single-click, double-click and drag lock; alternate between speed settings; program different settings for different applications; attach specific commands to buttons... the number of different features you can program is formidable, with most of the manual devoted to it.

Ergonomically, however, despite its formidable features list, the Trackball Pro is good rather than excellent. It looks big and clumsy on your desk, although your hand rests on it easily and your fingers fall fairly naturally on the buttons. Bear in mind that just about any trackball needs learning and practice when you're used to a mouse.

The trackball itself moves smoothly, although very small movements are sometimes on the jerky side. This is fairly common among trackballs, however, and given the control options available with the Trackball Pro, you could easily customise its sensitivity.



TRACKBALL PRO

Price: £89.95. **Out:** now.
Requires: any Mac.
Contact: ISM on 0121 327 4499.

Stingray

This trackball looks a little cheap and gimmicky compared to most. It has just two buttons, which take up the whole of the top surface. They can be set up for either left-handed or right-handed use, and one can be used as a drag-lock button.

Appearances can be deceptive, though. The Stingray is not at all tacky to use. Its medium-to-large footprint keeps it well anchored to your desk, and the trackball itself is fast, smooth and achieves small movements with little jerkiness. In fact, it works better than the Trackball Pro, despite its smaller trackball size, slightly lower price, and generally lower aspirations.

However, the Stingray is not programmable, although if you install the supplied Control Panel you do have a choice of acceleration and double-click speed settings, and you can customise your own acceleration settings, and name them for future use. This will mean a trip to the Control Panel every time you start that application, but it's there.

The Stingray is an able performer that works better than it looks. Its huge buttons are a definite advantage for long-time mouse users who find the transition to a trackball rather strange – it's just a shame about its lack of programmability.

EXTENDED KEYBOARD

These are now widely available for the Mac, and adopt a few of the more useful aspects of the PC keyboard: its function keys (which you can program) and its more logical cursor key layout.

STINGRAY

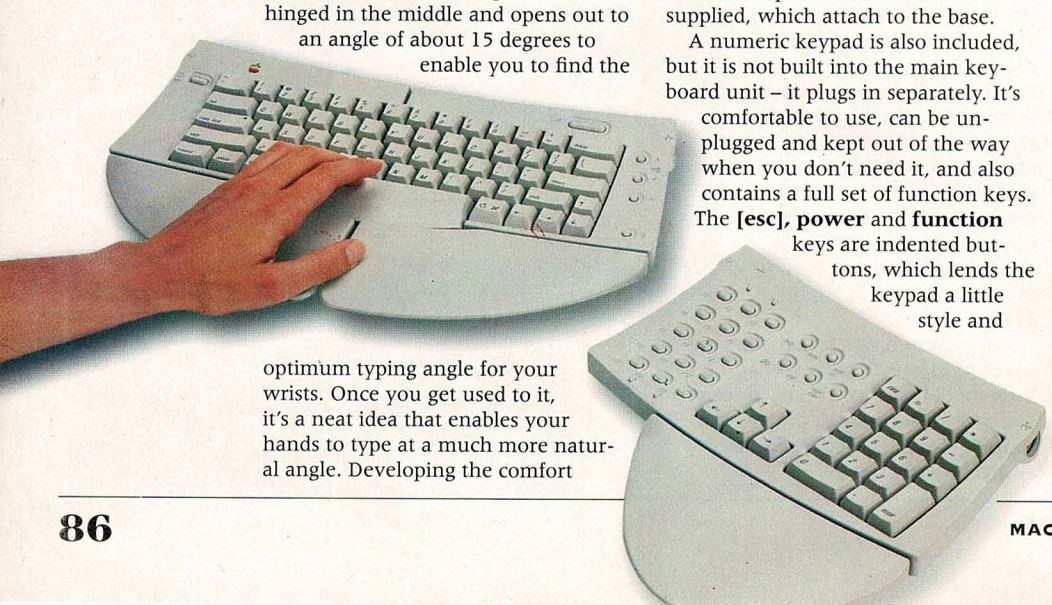
Price: £61.69. **Out:** now.
Requires: any Mac.
Contact: The Mac Accessory Centre on 0191 295 0353.

Apple adjustable keyboard

The Apple adjustable keyboard is hinged in the middle and opens out to an angle of about 15 degrees to enable you to find the optimum typing angle for your wrists. Once you get used to it, it's a neat idea that enables your hands to type at a much more natural angle. Developing the comfort theme, sculpted handrests are also supplied, which attach to the base.

A numeric keypad is also included, but it is not built into the main keyboard unit – it plugs in separately. It's comfortable to use, can be unplugged and kept out of the way when you don't need it, and also contains a full set of function keys. The **[esc]**, **power** and **function** keys are indented buttons, which lends the keypad a little style and practicality – you're less likely to press them by accident.

Dislikes? Well, the handrests fall off when you lift the keyboard up, and when it's hinged open, you might jam your fingers in the gap if you're a touch-typist. And with the keypad plugged in, the whole thing occupies a pretty colossal amount of desk space. But it's a stylish keyboard with a nice feel, and could provide some much needed comfort for day-long typists.



ADJUSTABLE KEYBOARD

Price: £199. **Out:** now.
Requires: any Mac.
Contact: Apple on 0800 127753.

Green Optical Mouse

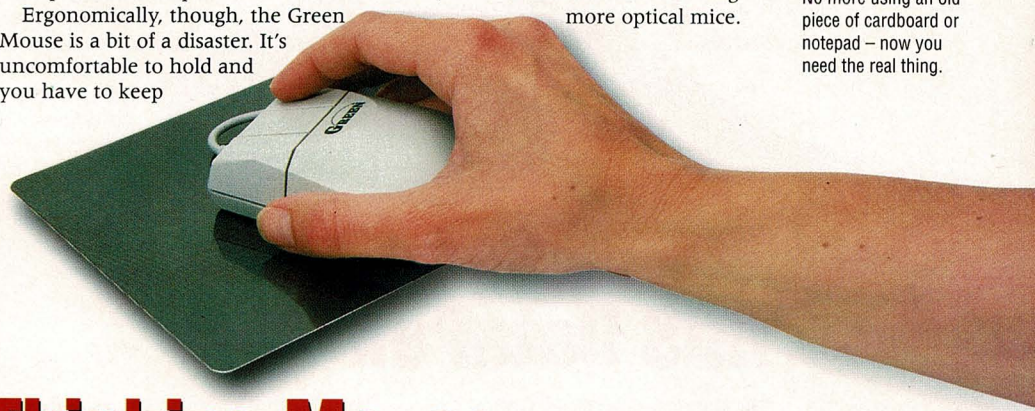
Optical mice work in a very different way from normal mechanical rodents. Instead of using rollers to measure the movement of a ball rolling across your desk (or mouse mat), they use beams of light, which reflect off a fine grid on a special mouse mat. The result is more accurate movement, no mouse ball slippage from fast movements, and no 'stiction', where the mouse ball sticks slightly before it moves, causing jerky small movements. Indeed, because there's no mouse ball (no moving parts at all, in fact), optical mice can be very smooth to use, too.

The Green Optical Mouse provides all of these qualities, and comes with three buttons. The two outside buttons give a single-click, while the central button offers drag-lock. There's no Control Panel software, though, which means you can't program the buttons in any different ways.

Ergonomically, though, the Green Mouse is a bit of a disaster. It's uncomfortable to hold and you have to keep feeling for the correct button until you get used to their positions. On the other hand, go back to the standard Apple mouse immediately after using the Green Mouse and you'll find the standard offering lightweight, tacky and jerky. A move in the right direction, and we look forward to seeing more optical mice.

AH, BUT...

The one and only real disadvantage of optical mice is that they're next to useless without the right mouse mat. No more using an old piece of cardboard or notepad – now you need the real thing.



GREEN OPTICAL MOUSE

Price: £39.95. **Out:** now.
Requires: any Mac.
Contact: Gasteiner on 0181 345 6000.

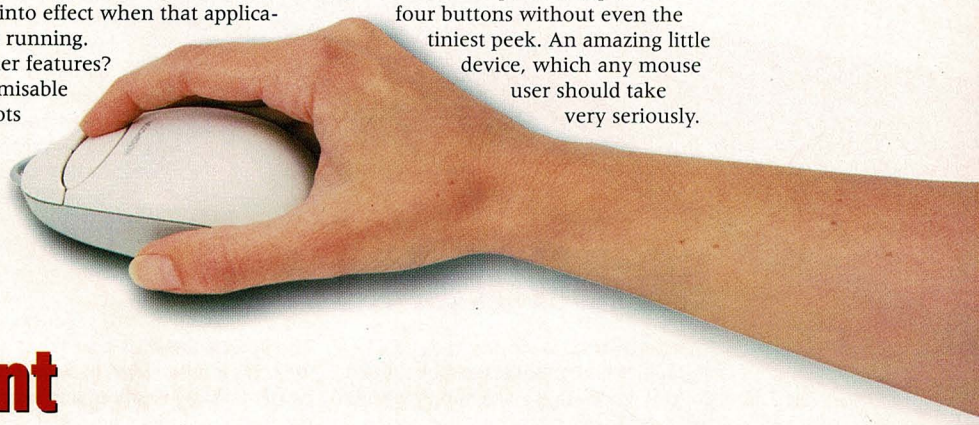
Kensington Thinking Mouse

The Kensington Thinking Mouse provides the ultimate in programmability. It uses a four-button design with powerful controlling software to offer some amazing features. For a start, you can set up your own custom acceleration graphs, and toggle alternative settings on and off using one of the mouse buttons (the Trackball Pro offers this too). These four buttons can, of course, also be programmed to offer single-click, double-click and drag-lock actions.

You can also assign a number of preset commands to the mouse keys. These enable you to open files, eject disks, Select All, cut and paste, and carry out other common actions, and if these aren't enough, you can attach your own key sequences to the buttons. Oh, and you can save settings for individual applications, which only come into effect when that application is running.

Other features? Customisable hotspots which your cursor can snap to, automatic movement to default buttons in dialogues, pop-up mini-menus anywhere on screen and too many other lovely things to mention.

And the ergonomics? Quite superb. This is one of the smoothest non-optical mice you'll find, and your fingers can instantly select any of the four buttons without even the tiniest peek. An amazing little device, which any mouse user should take very seriously.



THINKING MOUSE

Price: £65.74. **Out:** now.
Requires: any Mac.
Contact: The Mac Accessory Centre on 0191 295 0353.

ALPS Glidepoint

Touchpads are very strange to use. Cursor movements are controlled by the relative positioning of your finger on the pad, and the Glidepoint uses the electrical capacitance of your skin to sense movement, which works far better than pressure-sensitive devices. You do need to install the special Control Panel software, then restart your Mac with the Glidepoint plugged in.

The three buttons offer single-click, double-click and drag-lock actions, and these can be swapped around according to your preference. You can also set cursor speed and double-click speed. Interestingly, you can instead duplicate the effects of the buttons by tapping: one tap is a single-click, two taps emulate double-clicking, and two taps while keeping your finger on the pad the second time gives you drag-lock.

The Glidepoint scores surprisingly well when it comes to cursor control, but the button positioning feels unnatural. Also, this is a small, lightweight device that slides around easily.

Once you find the right touch, the Glidepoint is a sensitive, fairly accurate little device. It might suit you if you have strictly limited desk space, and the manufacturers now also provide keyboards with these touchpads built in.

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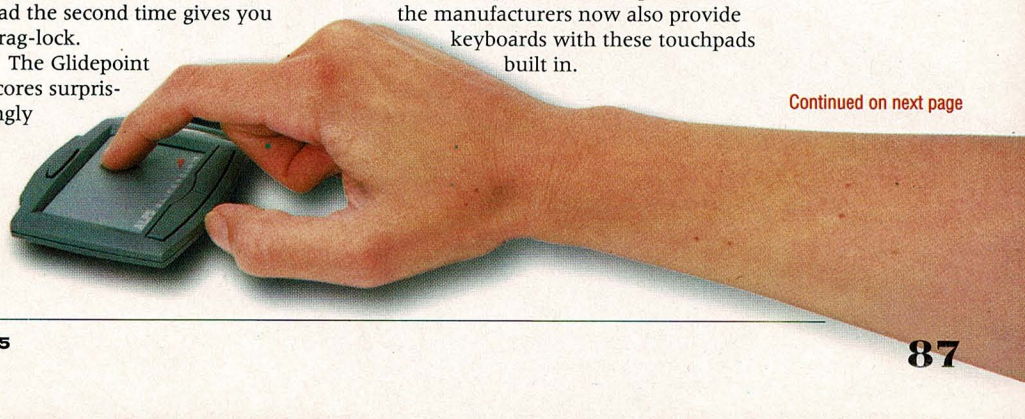


ALPS GLIDEPOINT

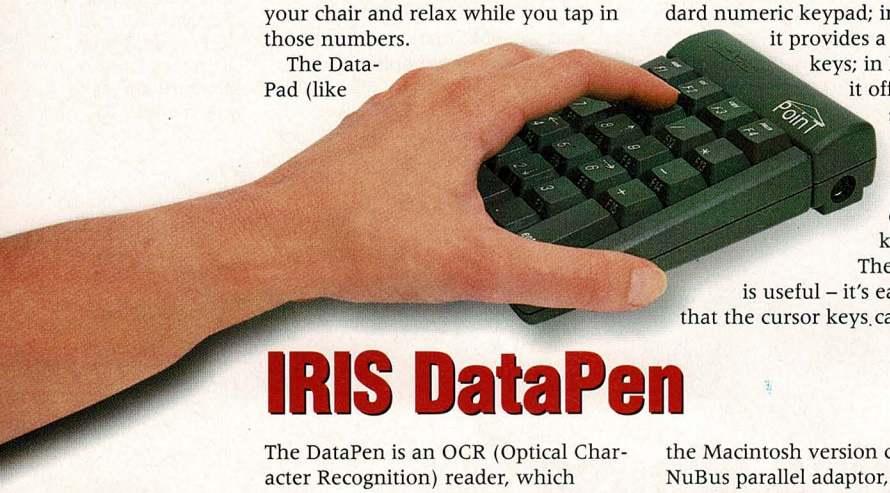
Price: £72.85. **Out:** now.
Requires: any Mac.
Contact: Rotech on 01604 763611.

DataPad

If you regularly type in lots of numbers, you'll love this gadget. It's also particularly handy if you're a PowerBook owner. It's basically an external keypad that you plug into your ADB port, and it means you can sit back in your chair and relax while you tap in those numbers.

The DataPad (like many of the devices here) has a pass-thru ADB port, which means you can keep your mouse plugged in while you use the number pad too. The DataPad actually works in three different modes: in Normal mode it's a standard numeric keypad; in Cursor mode it provides a set of cursor keys; in Function mode it offers the same set of function keys now appearing as standard on extended Mac keyboards.

The Cursor mode is useful – it's easy to forget that the cursor keys can provide smoother and more accurate movement than any other device, depending on the application. But most useful of all is the Function mode. More and more Mac software is taking advantage of functions keys – *QuarkXPress*, for example, uses them for certain preset actions, while *Photoshop* enables you to customise them to create shortcuts of your own, all of which makes this device potentially very useful.



DATAPAD

Price: £44.65. **Out:** now.
Requires: any Mac.
Contact: Gomark on 0171 731 7930.

IRIS DataPen

GRAPHICS TABLETS

Particularly good news for artists, these can also be used as a control device, although that would be underusing their abilities. Take a look at our round-up in MACFORMAT 29.

The DataPen is an OCR (Optical Character Recognition) reader, which means it scans printed text and turns it into editable copy on screen. The DataPen works via a parallel port, and the Macintosh version comes with a NuBus parallel adaptor, which means you'll need a Mac with a free NuBus slot to use it.

Software installation requires about 10Mb of free hard disk space, and there's also a fair amount of configuration and calibration to do, but once that's out of the way you are ready to use your DataPen.

And it works surprisingly well. You hold it like a pen, drawing the tip along the line of text you want to scan in. As you press the roller to the paper it switches the pen on, and a red light illuminates the text you're scanning. The scanning head also has a set of lines, which you can use as handy visual guides to stop yourself straying from one line of text to another.

It's quite uncanny seeing the text appear on screen (it takes a couple of seconds for the software to process the information), and it certainly saves many hours of tedious retyping.

Price: £469. **Out:** now.
Requires: LCII or better, 8Mb of RAM (16Mb for PowerMac), System 7 or later.
Contact: Image Data Systems on 0171 336 7942.

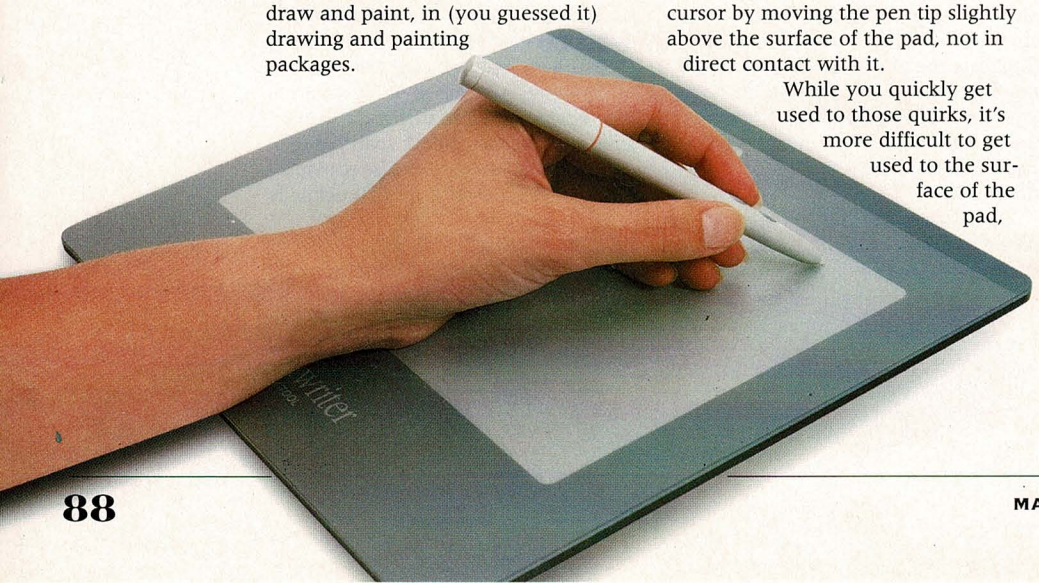
MacHandwriter

This is an amazing device. It looks like a graphics tablet, but it's actually a pen control device that also enables you to hand-write text, which it then reads and inputs into your word processing documents. You can also use it to draw and paint, in (you guessed it) drawing and painting packages.

The MacHandwriter does what it does well. It's a little weird to start with, because, unlike just about any other pointer-based input device, it works on absolute rather than relative positioning. Even odder, you position the cursor by moving the pen tip slightly above the surface of the pad, not in direct contact with it.

While you quickly get used to those quirks, it's more difficult to get used to the surface of the pad, which is hard and smooth. When you have to drag objects around you don't feel like you're properly in control, and the whole thing is a rather unfulfilling tactile experience.

However, the MacHandwriter is really very clever. Its software is good at recognising handwritten characters, and it's an interesting alternative when you're using painting or drawing packages. It also enables you to enter common commands using 'gestures'. Overall, though, it's tempting to suggest that the MacHandwriter is more clever than it is useful. **MF**



MAC HANDWRITER

Price: £410. **Out:** now.
Requires: Classic II/LCII or better, 4Mb of RAM, System 7 or later.
Contact: Softline on 0181 401 1234.

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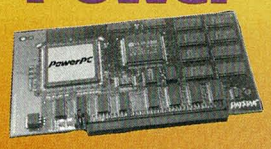

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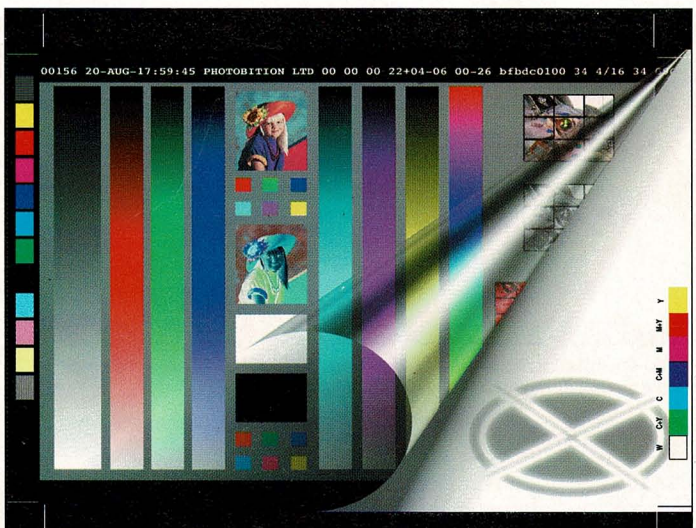

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SmartSketch 1.0

When a vector drawing package works like a bitmap paint program, you know you're onto something special. Can *SmartSketch* meet everyone's needs?

You're doubtless thinking 'Here we go again, another Macintosh art program,' but you're wrong. Naturally, to stand up and fight with the graphic all-comers in the Mac market, a new package has to be something special. *SmartSketch* is more than special. In fact, it's unlike any other graphics package you've ever seen before.

£5 off *SmartSketch*! Exclusive special offer – see page 113

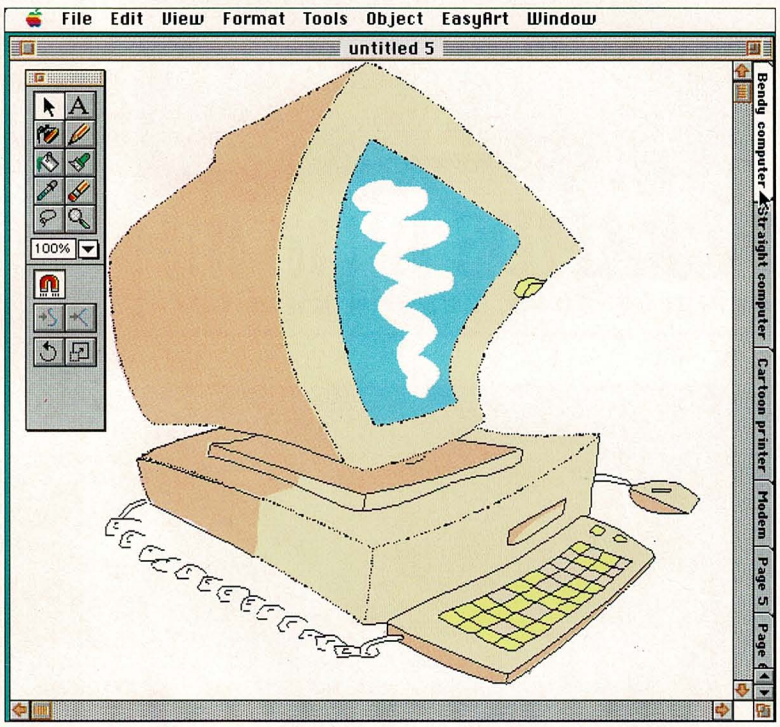
SmartSketch takes the basic vector graphic formula, but gives it the kind of interface you expect from a paint package. The ability to draw freehand and create calligraphic outlines isn't anything new to the vector world, but imagine being able to slap on pixel paint without having to worry about Bézier control points, overlaps or layers. *SmartSketch* enables you to create rules and fills in complete freeform fashion, applying the vector outlines only after you lift your finger off the mouse button.

The beauty of this system is that you can keep adding extra strokes with the paintbrush or pen tool, and the vector outline and fill area are updated accordingly. It's like having the best of both worlds: the easy and intuitive approach of painting on screen, while retaining the resolution-independent quality of the final vector image. For the freehand artist more used to bitmap graphics, *SmartSketch's* vector approach offers another benefit: whatever you paint becomes a distinguishable, editable object rather than just a mass of pixels on screen.

You can achieve a number of special effects using this combination. You can, for example, use the pen tool to draw an outline of a car, then colour it in quickly with the bucket, or manually with the paintbrush, but you can still drag the outline and fill apart at any time. You can even set *SmartSketch* to paint directly behind an object or outline without having to go through a two-step process of painting and then adjusting layers.

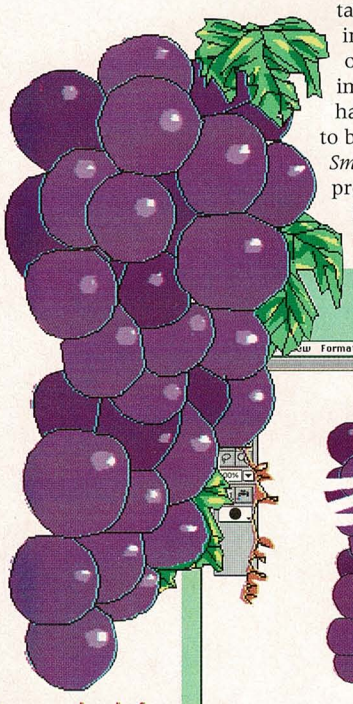
Node free zone

Despite the fact that this is a Bézier-based vector package, you won't find any nodes or visual control points anywhere. This can be a little strange for the technical artist, since it means you're just clicking on lines or curves 'blind' and pulling them out in the hope that they'll stretch in the correct way. For the amateur and anyone given the task of producing business

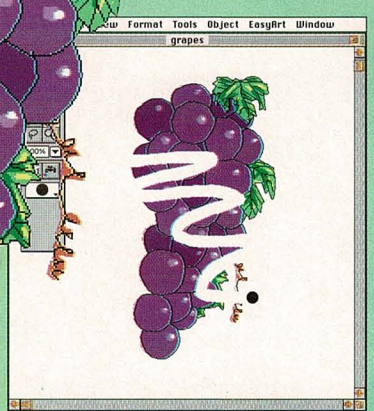


Among its many features, *SmartSketch* enables you to build art books by splitting a file into a multi-page document, which you can navigate using thumb tabs down the right hand side.

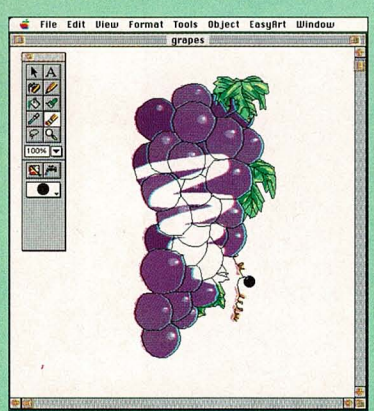
Just look at your Eraser Head



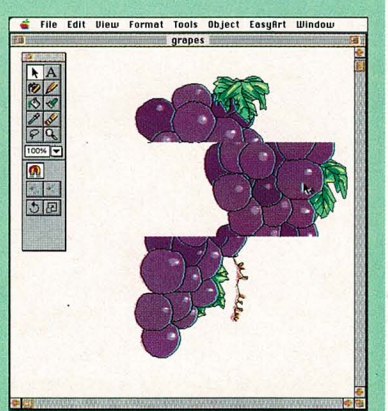
Just another average bunch of vector graphic grapes?



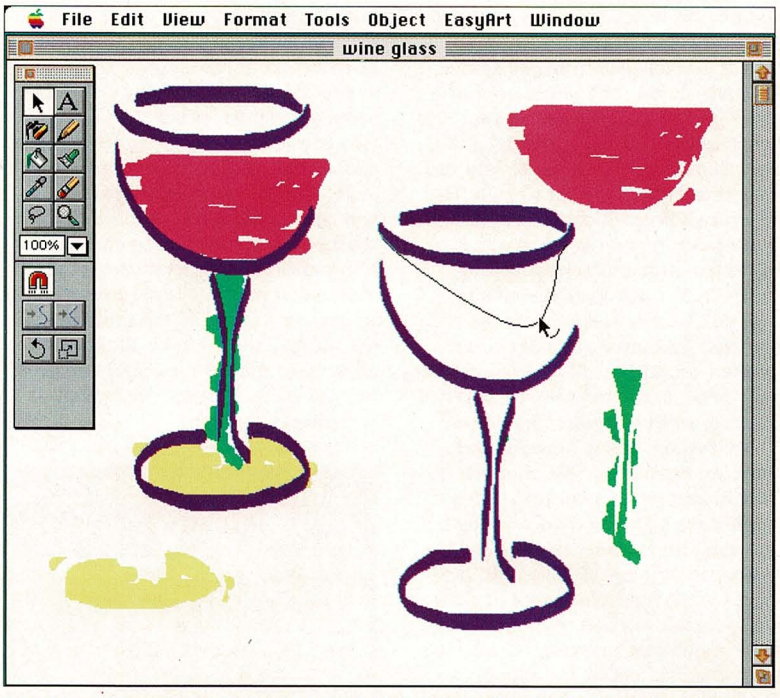
Take your grapes and run the erase tool over them. This looks like a bitmap, but in fact the eraser has simply created new vector outlines.



Alternatively, you could erase the fills but leave the outlines of the erased grapes intact...



...or select an area with a marquee and drag it away. *SmartSketch* offers vector graphics to which you can apply bitmap effects.



Even after you've painted in fills, you can separate them out instantly and and edit the outlines Bézier-style without having to faff about with nodes and control points. *SmartSketch* makes it easy.

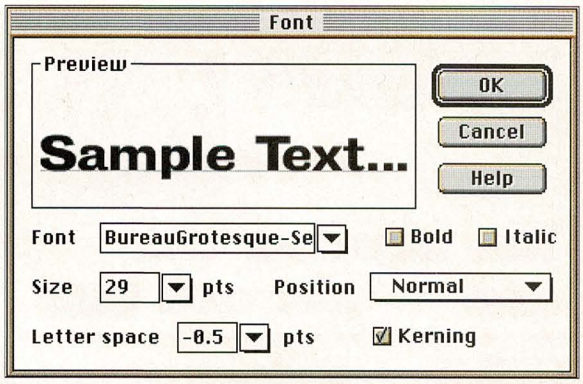
graphics quickly, nodes on Bézier curves just get in the way, and the fact that *SmartSketch* avoids them makes it all the more intuitive. You just click on the curves and corners you want to edit, and drag away.

With the nodes hidden, *SmartSketch* has some interesting tricks up its sleeve. You can slice up and separate any object simply by highlighting the area you want and moving it: *SmartSketch* automatically sorts out where vector paths are being cut, and reconstructs the new closed paths instantly. So you could drag a marquee or the lasso tool over a portion of a graphic, then immediately drag that portion to one side (even to a new window). You can then delete it, or edit it in isolation from the rest of the graphic. Drag one object onto another, then delete it, and you're left with a cut-out hole of the shape of the deleted object. You can even draw freehand roughs and have *SmartSketch* turn them into straight lines and smooth curves as you draw them. The potential for effects is enormous.

As well as enabling you to draw bitmap-fashion, *SmartSketch* also offers an eraser tool – something you don't often find in a vector graphics package. The eraser is good for rubbing out errors, but equally valid for carving shapes out of solid fills. The eraser can be set to rub out fills only or outlines only, which is useful if you have an unsteady hand.

Getting to know you

Although *SmartSketch* is a bizarre hybrid of vector images and bitmap tools, picking up the technique is no great challenge. You get a 100-page manual in the box, but it doesn't dwell much on how to use the program; it's really just a run-down of what's in the

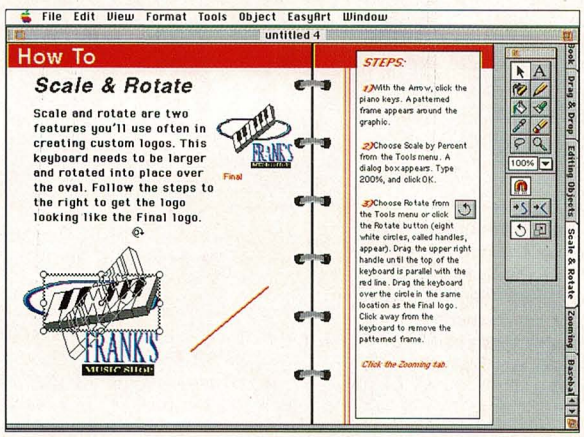


Font handling is *SmartSketch*'s only failing. This is about as sophisticated as it gets – no fancy kerning features here. But the preview window is useful.

menus and the single floating toolbar. Instead you are expected to run a Quick Start tutorial on-screen, after which you can choose to run any of the seven further task-based tutorials on offer. While most software-based tutorials tend to brush the surface of a program's feature list just to get you started, the *SmartSketch* tutorials leave you in full control of every function of the program.

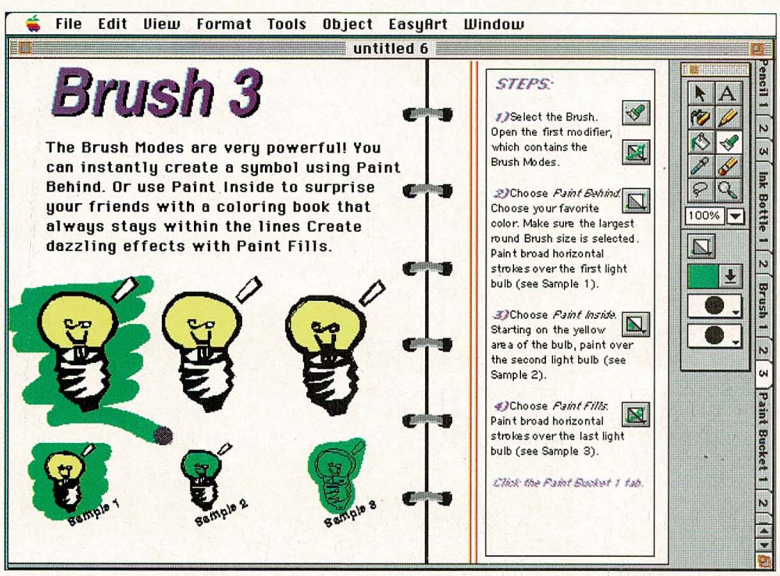
Getting to know all the functions isn't difficult, of course, because *SmartSketch* is a small and uncomplicated package. This raises the question: who is it aimed at? Outwardly, the non-artistic business user might be

Continued on next page

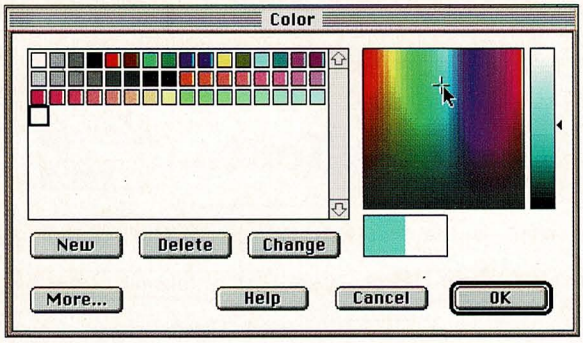


The Logo Creator lesson takes you the steps of designing company images.

Apply special effects to fonts with the help of the Headline Builder lesson.



The Quick Start lesson is one of the most effective on-line tutorials we've seen.

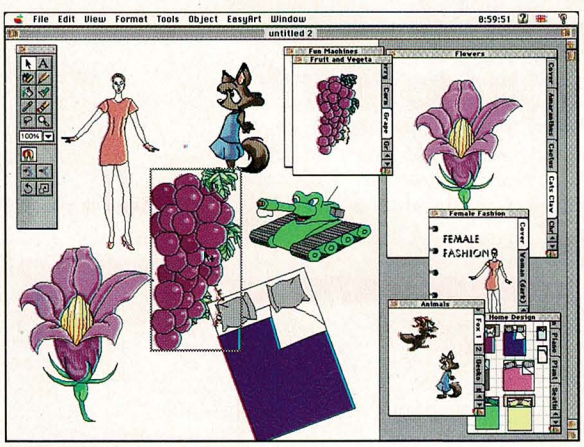


You can create new colours visually using this simple dialogue or click on **More...** to call up the standard Mac colour wheel with HSL and RGB measurements.

interested by the automation features and the 500 images of clip art. Notably, the import and export filters not only include *Adobe Illustrator* 88 format, but *AutoCAD* DXF too. On the other hand, *SmartSketch* is likely to be popular in the domestic market simply because it's so much fun to use.

Having said that, *SmartSketch* provides a number of attractive features that you wouldn't expect in a 'fun' package. Multiple graphics don't need to be saved in separate files – instead you can create paged documents, which you navigate using customisable tabs down the right hand side of the window. The package also supports up to 200 levels of undo, and magnification up to 2,000%. You can export to PICT format at a resolution of your choice, which maintains high quality when you need to make a vector-to-bitmap conversion, and these PICTs can be antialiased and optionally contain full PostScript code for superior output. You can also convert the RGB and HSL colours that you create in the program to CMYK if you export to *Illustrator* EPS format.

In addition, *SmartSketch* supports pressure-sensitive graphics tablets. In combination with a cordless stylus it really comes into its own, although the pressure feature can't be used to produce fountain fills or colour variance within one colour area or stroke – the current version of the program only allows you to create solid colours. *SmartSketch* offers special support for Wacom's recently revamped line of Eraser Pen styli, enabling you to draw with one end of the stylus and erase with the other, just like a real pencil, and all without recourse to the on-screen toolbar.



SmartSketch clip art comes in the form of 17 EasyArt libraries in resizable floating palettes. Unfortunately, most of it is the kind of clip art people love to hate.

Hmm, but...

Where the package falls down is in its control of type. While you can do some clever tricks with fonts in the program, you are restricted to a maximum point size of 255pt. Despite the ability to change overall letter-spacing, there is no manual kerning function – you can turn kerning 'on' or 'off' but not adjust it. That said, *SmartSketch* is unusual in that it provides support for flowing text in paragraphs.

SmartSketch is something of a compromise product, which goes a long way towards satisfying the demands of the business, artistic and leisure user alike. But as compromises go, it cuts few corners. Not only one is it one of the easiest art packages to master, it's also capable of quickly creating special effects that might otherwise take you hours using even the top programs in the market. It tries to be all things to all people, and it very nearly succeeds, but not quite. In short, *SmartSketch* is a real pleasure to use. **MF**

SMARTSKETCH 1.0

Price: £54.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: LC or better; 4Mb of RAM, System 7 or later, colour monitor
Contact: CGS Computerbild on 0181 679 7307

FEATURES 85%
Not so much 'bells and whistles' as 'bells, whistles and trombones'.

EASE OF USE 90%
This is what *SmartSketch* is all about – a joy to play with.

DOCUMENTATION 80%
The manual is good, but it's doubtful you'll need it much.

VALUE FOR MONEY 85%
Not Christmas stocking prices, but much cheaper than you'd expect.

MACFORMAT RATING 89%

BITMAP, VECTOR... AND SMARTSKETCH

Unless you've had some experience of art packages, all this talk of bitmap paint and vector draw programs is likely to leave you cold. But the way in which *SmartSketch* manages to cross the barrier between the two is so remarkable that it would be a shame to miss out on what exactly this means. With nerd hat firmly on and some clip pens arranged in breast pocket, here's a quick guide to the wonderful world of bits and Béziers.

A bitmap is simply an image made up of dots, traditionally with a binary computer 'bit' representing each on-screen dot, otherwise known as a pixel. Rather than being the computer equivalent of pointillism, this definition of images as a mapped arrangement of pixels is the only way they can be represented on-screen: your Mac and video hardware together keep track of which pixel is white, which is black, red, green and so on across the millions on your screen.

Designing a program that enables you to 'paint' pixels is easy, which explains why bitmap paint packages have been available for the Mac for as long as the Mac itself. In use, you simply specify a colour to paint with and then any pixels touched by your paintbrush tool are given those colour properties. The visual areas of colour only exist as unconnected pixels as far as your Mac is concerned, although modern bitmap software is able to recognise similarly coloured adjacent pixels and group them together for recolouring or filter effects.

Vector graphics are entirely different in approach, based on a system of points plotted out in a virtual XY axis and connected with mathematically calculated lines. For example, a straight line would be defined as a plot point for each end of the line, plus an instruction that they should be linked together by a line of a particular weight, colour and style. This is highly memory-efficient compared with the bitmap method, which has to record the bit information for every single visual pixel made up by the line. And not only can the line be given properties, but objects created by a closed path of linked points can be styled and coloured.

In addition, vector programs now generally make use of the mathematical curve concept devised by French engineer Pierre Bézier. Bézier was able to define the exact shape of any single arc using only two end points and a control point (which indicates the direction and 'volume' of the vector). Any curve, then, can be defined with a mere pair of control points and no other information.

The vector approach has two advantages: it creates editable virtual objects that exist independently of each other, and it enables you to create graphics with perfect mathematical precision, regardless of how they are scaled or which output device they are sent to. PostScript fonts, for example, are basically a set of enclosed vector paths.

SmartSketch is a vector graphics package, let there be no doubt, but it has been designed to work with all the features and freedom of a paint package. So you get the quality and output device-independent benefit of vector quality graphics combined with the easy 'slap it on' approach of bitmap painting. As you slap on the paint, or rub out with the eraser, the nature and shape of the vector paths is altered on the fly. You can at last apply natural art techniques to precision design.

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Bitfolio clip art is supplied as EPS (Encapsulated PostScript) format for the Macintosh and is compatible with a wide variety of presentation and illustration programmes. All the images are in colour and drawn, NOT scanned, to ensure high quality. This also means they can be edited in appropriate illustration software.

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"Smart Sketch is the first program to fully give the feel of using the tools of a paint application to create Postscript artwork."
"kids will love it but many adults will love it more."

Paul Woolton, Mac User July '95

"This is the most intelligent, well thought out and enjoyable drawing package yet. It sets a standard no others come close to. Brilliant."

Steve Caplin, THE MAC August '95

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Picture perfect

Last issue Alistair Dabbs introduced you to eight great clip art libraries. Discover two more collections to suit your needs, whether they're business or pleasure.

ART À LA CARTE

You've experienced theme restaurants; now try restaurant-themed clip art packaging. *Art à la Carte* is a range of clip art libraries that actually covers a wide range of topics, but its packaging designers have decided to fit as many food puns as possible onto the box.

You should probably be wary of any product packaging that informs you that the nutritional serving of 150 images is completely calorie and fat-free. There's even a Recipe Registration Card. The images are bright and breezy vector EPSs (they also come in *Print Shop Deluxe* format), and are geared towards home and leisure users, rather than the business or design market. Typical titles include Out & About and Holidays & Fun – you probably wouldn't want to use its images of haunted houses and party balloons for a business presentation.

The CD-ROM editions feel so empty, you can hear the echo, and there's no image browser, although a printed black and white pictorial index is supplied, and, given the number of images per box, this is all you need. It doesn't do justice to the rainbow of gaudy colours used throughout the library, though.

If you have the money to spare, *Art à la Carte* disks are a great source of pictures for creating party invitations and greeting cards on your colour inkjet printer. But the sheer lack of quantity is a bind.

ART À LA CARTE

Disk format: 3.5-inch floppy or CD-ROM.
No of images: approx 150 per title.
Image formats: EPS vector, *Print Shop Deluxe.*
Price: £29.99 each.
Contact: Softline on 0181 401 1234.

MACFORMAT RATING 70%

Despite the food puns on the packaging, *Art à la Carte* covers plenty of other subjects in bright colours. This collection isn't aimed at the business market – the emphasis is on fun, with titles like Out & About and Holidays & Fun.

If you think you're going to need pictures of people at work, at their desks or in the gym, then this is the one for you. *Bitfolio 6* is a professional package, aimed at the business market.

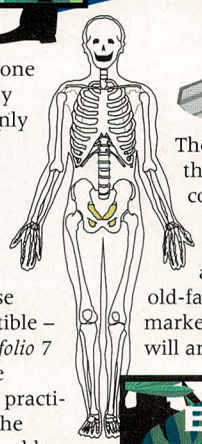
BITFOLIO 6

Bitfolio crystallises the traditional approach to clip art. In one CD, it offers you an adequately varied selection of topics, at only the slight expense of choice within each topic.

The images are supplied in both standard *Illustrator* EPS format and *FreeHand* native format, presumably a remnant from the days when these two programs weren't compatible – sure enough, an upgraded *Bitfolio 7* is due as you read this. All the graphics are vector-based and practically all are ready-coloured. The quality of the art is unquestionably professional, even where the topics might seem dull or frivolous.

The inverse of *Art à la Carte*, *Bitfolio* is clearly a business presentation resource, providing selections of famous landmarks, cars, computer equipment, and so on, with not a single politically incorrect bathing beauty in sight. The CD isn't exactly full, but there's a good 250Mb of graphics to choose from, and most of it is useful for symbolic or illustrative purposes, even if it's not detailed enough to be featured as central artwork.

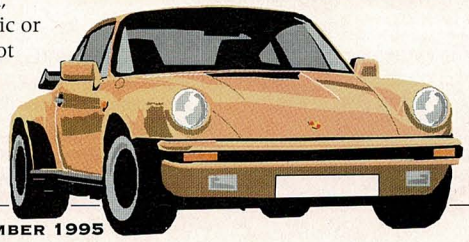
Bitfolio includes image after image of people at desks, people at work and people in the gym. The impression is of a throwaway resource for corporate training departments and cheerful presentations. This approach looks a little old-fashioned, even in the business market, and the version 7 release will arrive just in time. **MF**



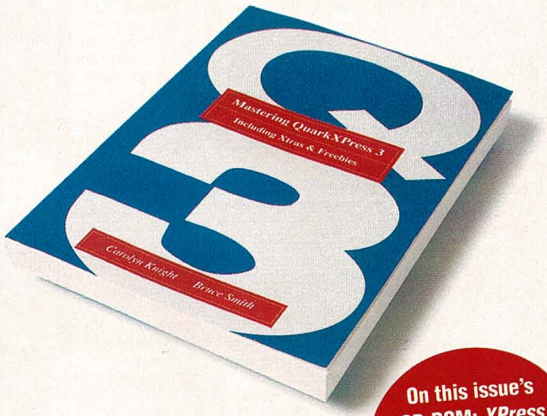
BITFOLIO 6

Disk format: CD-ROM.
No of images: 2,000.
Image formats: EPS vector, *FreeHand* native.
Price: £117.
Contact: Linographic on 01252 376103.

MACFORMAT RATING 74%



EXCLUSIVE QUARKXPRESS BOOK OFFER



On this issue's CD-ROM: *XPress* templates & tutorials from Bruce Smith – normally £9.95!

Have you graduated to *Quark* only to be dazzled by all its options? This practical book from leading computer book publishers Bruce Smith Books may be just what you need. Written by two DTP experts with a wealth of real-world experience, *Mastering QuarkXPress 3* works through the program step-by-step, starting with the basics of the controls and taking you through the procedures of creating your own documents. It deals with what *Quark* can do, then walks you through a practical example. It then tackles different aspects of the program in logical order: master pages, printing, paragraph attributes, style sheets, graphics, colour, and so on.

This 350-page book was £23.95, but as a MACFORMAT reader you can order a copy for just £4.95, including delivery! The catch? Just this: the book covers *QuarkXPress 3.0*, but not the latest versions of the program, which is now up to 3.3. But the interface is the same and the basics haven't changed – if you have a newer version, the documentation with it tells you exactly what's different. This remains a handy, easy-to-follow introduction to using the program – and £4.95 is a bargain, whatever version of *XPress* you've got.

To order a copy at this exclusive offer price, simply use this form (or a photocopy) and mail it to:

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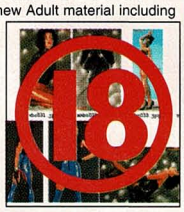
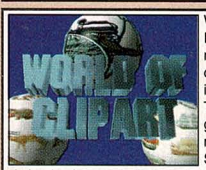


ADULT SENSATION 2 The new batch (CD115) £19.99



World of Clipart is a double CD-ROM containing around 40,000 mono and colour clipart images contained in over 100 catagories in IFF, GIF, PCX, CDR, EPS, TIF, & BMP. Perfect for giving your documents a more professional finish. Subjects include : Animals, Anatomy, Babies, Men, Women, Trees, Reptiles, Insects, Xmas, Religious, Planes, Vehicles, Ships, Toys, Zodiac signs, Eye catchers, Humour, Cats, Dogs, Computers, Technology, Sealife, Space, Symbols, Royalty, Dinosaurs, Plants, Nature, Ads, Tools, Astrology, Hands, Birds, Business, Office, Workers, Cartoon, Lion King, Education, Food, Gardening, Holidays, Houses & Buildings, Helicopters, Children, Banners, Medieval, Military, Monsters, Music, Sports (football, golf, Aerobics, Olympics, etc), Transport, Trains, War and more.

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Hundreds of classic Sports bloomers from boxing to racing, The horses, Wrestling, Motor Cycles etc. All clips are viewableon MAC. All movies were captured using statre of the are video capture equipment. So all the scetches are of the highest possible quality. All clips are "public domain" so you can do as you please with them.....

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Lemmings and Oh no more Lemmings. This IS the Best & most addictive arcade/ mind game ever produced. Features 200 increasingly difficult levels. Guaranteed to keep you stuck to your Mac for months. Rated 98%

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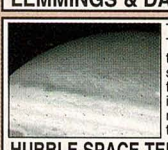


The Hubble Space Telescope archive contains the high quality images and superb quicktime movies from the Nasa archive includeing space shuttle missions 31 & 61. An Internet tutorial is also incuded.

HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE (CD137) £29.99

SCI-FI Sensation is an exciting new CD-ROM containing over 1GIG of SCI-FI images, animations, 3D objects, Sound FX, Documents, Themetunes, Scripts & SCI-FI games. Subjects included are: Babylon5, Startrek (The original, TNG, Deep Space 9 and Voyager), Batman, Dr Who, Thunderbirds, Robocop, Sea Quest DSV, Bladerunner, Aliens, Terror hawks, 2001. Blake7, Battlestar Galactica, Tron, Total Recal, 2010, Space 1999 etc. SCI-FI Sensation also includes hundreds of miscellanous 3D space craft objects, Hundreds of misc. SCI-FI images, sound fx and more.

SCI-FI SENSATION DOUBLE CD (CD118) £19.99

The 1000 image files on this CD ROM will dazzle you. There are images of the earth, the stars, astronauts and spacecraft. Most of these images are from NASA. You will see the vantage point of deep space probes. Over 5000 text files will fill your mind with detailed accounts of space missions and comprehensive data on topics of astronomy. A collection of space-related shareware rounds out the Space & Astronomy CD.

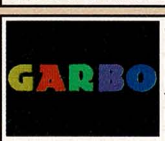
SPACE & ASTRONOMY (CD15) £19.99

This is the most comprehensive encyclopedia about the Space Shuttle ever produced. It contains over 3015 GIF images, most of which are full colour and all royalty free, so you can use them for what ever you wish to. The Space Shuttle encyclopedia also features over 3700 text files about every Space Shuttle mission and loads more fascinating data. Delve into the history and excitement of the Space Shuttle encyclopedia.

SPACE SHUTTLE ENCYCLOPEDIA (CD138) £19.99

Over 7,000 top quality colour images. Subjects include: cats, aviation, animals, people, hi-tech, space, cars, trains, textures, nature, sports, pinups, boats, flowers, plants, seasons, birds, technology, raytraced, cartoons, fantasy, art, reptiles and dozens more subjects. *The perfect CD for presentation, and Desktop publishing work.*

GIF SENSATION NEW!! DOUBLE CD (CD128) £19.99



Garbo includes: Afterdark modules such as Neko,Satori &Screaming Bjarne. ATM, Truetype & Bitmap fonts. A number of games, Programming tools such as GNU C++ & Mac-Oberon, Hundreds of documents, Utilities including archivers, disk tools, Sys 7 utilities, inits, virus tools, printer drivers, graphics tools and much, much more.

GARBO FOR MAC (CD132) £19.99

A ten CD set of very high quality colour Images. Each CD contains a different subject. Catagories inclide: Props, Majestic Places, Scenes, Money & Business, Baltik Designs and more. Great for DTP work.

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Adult Sensation Volume One contains over 4,000 high quality colour photographs of glamour girls. This CD will take you months to ponder through. Only suitable for humans over the age of 18 and under the age of 65.

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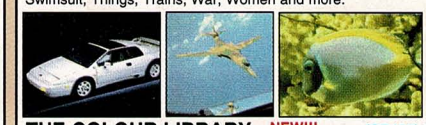
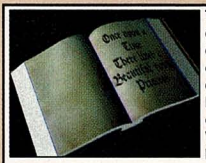
Kodak Photo CD access software for the Apple MAC. Get Boots to put your photographs onto CD and view them on your MAC. It couldn`t be easier.

ACCESS PLUS 2 (CD133) £24.99

The Colour library contains over 1,700 very high quality colour clipart and GIF image files. Colour clipart subjects include: Animals, Bikes, Birds, Boats, Buildings, Cars, Cartoons, Cats, Computers, Dinosaurs, Dogs, Fantasy, Fish, Flags, Flowers, Food, Helicoptors, Horses, Insects, Maps, Medical, Men, Military, Painting, Places, Planes, Scenic, SCI-FI, Sea, Ships, Space, Sports, Swimsuit, Things, Trains, War, Women and more.

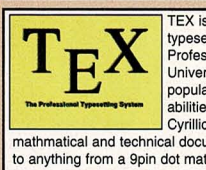


THE COLOUR LIBRARY NEW!!! (CD130) ONLY £9.99



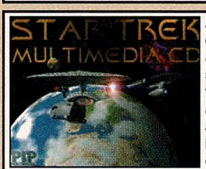
The Project Gutenburg contains a collection of English language literature and historical documents from the Project Gutenberg. This collection represents some of the most commonly used and referenced works of literature. This one disc will replace hundreds of books. Documents include: Alice in Wonderland, Moby dick, The CIA world fact book and hundreds more. All the files are stored as plain ascii format which makes this collection accesible to any Wordprocessor or desktop publisher.

PROJECT GUTENBERG (CD139) £19.99

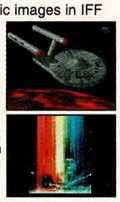


TEX is a professional typesetting system created by Professor D. Knuth of Stanford University. TEX has grown in popularity due to its unique abilities. TEX handles English, Japanese, Chinese, Cyrillic and Arabic text. TEX also has strong mathmatical and technical document support. You can output your documents to anything from a 9pin dot matrix, to a lazer printer to a 1200dpi typesetter.

TEX "The Professional Typesetter" (CD141) £19.99

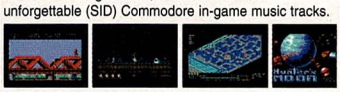


A superb CD-ROM for all STARTREK fans, contains Hundreds of graphic images in IFF & GIF from the very first series too the very latest film/series. Dozens of IFF and WAV sound samples are also included aswell as both the Next Generation & original Startrek Theme tunes. Also includes dozens of Startrek animations in both Amiga anim & FLI. This CD-ROM is made for a number of other platforms but will function on the MAC.

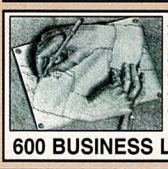


STARTREK MULTIMEDIA GOLD (CD04) £27.99

Features hundreds of classic C64 games, 10,000 classic C64 Megademos, and over 30mb of unforgettable (SID) Commodore in-game music tracks.



C64 SENSATION "Blast from the Past" (CD120) £19.99



Around 600 pre-written letter templates all in ascii. You simply fill in the gaps. Catagories include: Over 200 business & accounts letters, around 100 employee letters, over 100 legal letter temples, almost 100 order letters, dozens of sales letters and more. suitable for any Wordprocessor or Desktop publisher.

600 BUSINESS LETTERS (eu) NEW (CD74) Special £9.99

Fantazia fonts contains hundreds of only the highest quality professional MAC fonts available. An index / catalogue book is supplied giving printed examples and information on each font.

FANTAZIA FONTS (CD134) £21.99

A collection of superb arcade games for the MAC. All your old favourites are included. Invaders, pacman, missile command, and loads more. Hours of fun for every-one.

GIGANTIC GAMES 2 (CD62) £19.99

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A complete reference library of occult, esoteric, fringe and alternative reality. 40 million words in over 2300 text files. *Covers UFOS, Aliens & coverups, The JFK conspiracy, police, Alternative medicine and technology, tarot, palm reading, Astrology, Paganism & more.* **(CD136) £21.99**

MAC

Open Monday-Saturday 9:30-5:30. Cheques & Postal orders accepted. UK P&P add £1 per CD-ROM. Overseas P&P add £2 per CD-ROM. Most titles work on PC, Amiga & Mac. Most orders sent within 48hours. All prices inc. VAT. E&OE

A Passion for Art

The idea that impressionist art could threaten the moral fabric of society may seem strange now, but in Roaring Twenties America it was a reality. *A Passion for Art* unearths a hidden collection.

Censorship? Insecurity? Stupidity? What lay behind the reasoning is uncertain, but the critics hated his collection and in 1925 Dr Albert C Barnes bolted the door to his private gallery of post-impressionist and impressionist art and kept it locked for the next 70 years. Bloody-minded, maybe, but what has been described as 'the greatest collection of its kind' remained unseen by Pablo Public for over 50 years. The critics got their wish. Until now.

Just ignore the appalling title for a moment, because *A Passion for Art* is possibly the greatest publication of its kind. Essentially a virtual visit to Dr Barnes's retreat, this is a comprehensive and beautifully presented tour of the gallery, its paintings, and the cultural and personal history of the times – it's like spending a month in the house without using your feet.

Once you've taken in a suitably joke-laden introduction to the eccentric Dr Barnes, the gallery is all yours. A Stroll About option, informative tours, the opportunity to view individual paintings, a historic guide to the evolution of the genre and access to Barnes's private papers – it's all here, with an easy-to-use interface and some incredible artistic reproduction. You can jump from the gallery into the depths of a particular painting in one mouse click, then zoom in on a detail and scan the depths of the brushwork in magnified simplicity – the wheat bales of Van Gogh, the dot-drawn bathers of Seurat, the nude abstracts of Matisse. Although displaying art of this calibre on a monitor does little for your appreciation of texture and depth, it avoids the need for heavily-roped barriers, suspicious security guards and talking in hushed tones. If that doesn't thrill you, the wealth of information here surely will – impressing family, friends and taxi drivers has never been so easy. Text notes are available with each painting, and although they aren't exhaustive, they give a neat glance into the mindset of the artist at the time. This is essential for understanding the great Gogh ear incident or the café habits of Cezanne.

Linked smoothly throughout, *A Passion for Art* has user-friendly sketched inside its glossy overcoat. Even if you're a novice to both the art world and the CD-ROM medium, you need fear nothing except enjoyment.

Indexed works encourage you to search and investigate, narrated slideshows educate and provoke, while the archive section on the crazy antics of Dr Barnes serves as an outspoken interlude, passionately hilarious. Only the inevitable addition of a completely unnecessary and insignificant timeline along with a few monochrome gaps on the walls serve to divert your attention.

As an exercise in translating one of the world's most uncelebrated galleries onto CD-ROM, *A Passion for Art* comes canvas-close to perfection – an imposing accomplishment that's somehow made to look easy. And where the articulate agenda of the package stands tall, the achievements contained within this forgotten landscape impress you with an awe-inspiring dignity called genius.

GIL GILLESPIE

A PASSION FOR ART

Price: £49.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: LCIII or better, 8Mb of RAM, System 7 or later, 256-colour, 13-inch monitor, and a double-speed CD-ROM drive.
Contact: Corbis on 0171 278 1387.

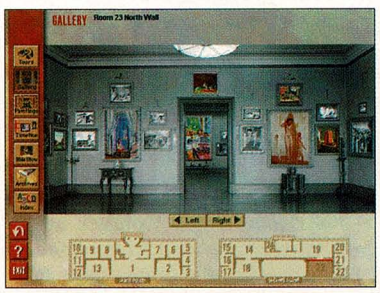
MACFORMAT RATING 90%

SQUARE SHAPED

Although *A Passion for Art* concerns itself mainly with impressionism, many of the paintings here belong to the influential cubist movement. Do not be surprised to see women with oblong faces, square fruit and boxes in many colours.

STATESIDE

Anyone wishing to visit the Barnes Foundation will find it in Pennsylvania, USA.



The walkabout section allows freedom of movement and enables you to appreciate the majesty of the place.

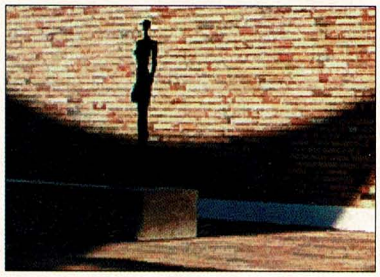
Can you think of anything as distinctive as Van Gogh's brushstrokes? Apart from Mondrian's unique and much emulated style.

Detail of Chagall. Use the magnifying icon, zoom in, turn on, explore the inches.

A Stroll in 20th Century Art

As CD-ROM approaches its adolescence we can expect experimentation, inspiration and a refusal to conform. *20th Century Art* is the ideal moment for rebellion.

Modern art is everywhere, pervading everyday life, not just sitting in galleries and museums.



The use of light is everywhere in *20th Century Art*.

DIG THIS

Not content with mere art, the Maeght Foundation also hosted musical events including appearances by seminal jazz-madman Sun Ra and the legendary Ella Fitzgerald.

Welcome to paradise. Somewhere deep among the grapevine somnambulance of Provence lies a different world. A world in abstract form, where the likes of Miro, Chagall and Matisse are your builders. Their work stands all around: in the garden strange statues bend and puzzle; the rooms hang magnificent with great works; even the swimming pool is a masterpiece. This is no dream; this is the Maeght Foundation, where white-washed sunlight perfectly harmonises with some of the most imaginative art of the 20th century. Not a place to discard litter.

Marguerite and Aime Maeght have welcomed visitors to their new art landscape since the early '60s, and now, via the dynamic brilliance of this CD-ROM, they reach out a hand and welcome new art lovers. *20th Century Art* is a classy and often spectacular use of the medium – media interdiscipline at its finest. Not content with offering a guide-through tour, *20th Century Art* is an artistic statement in itself. Video filmed through a circular camera, archive film torn from the back pages of distant history and a soundtrack lifted straight from utopia – everything here smacks of creativity. Over a thousand works are available, and whole days can disappear as you drift deeper into the place.

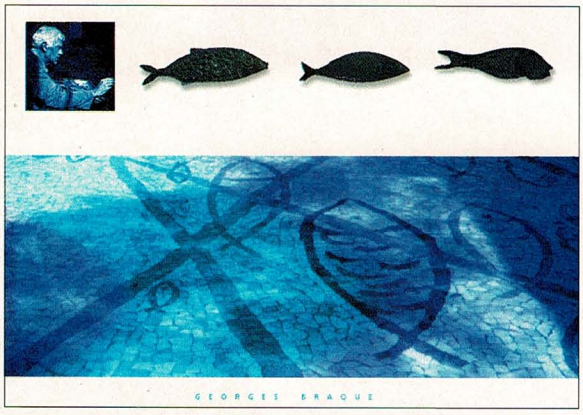
And it's not just point, click and stare – 27 video clips provide a complete tour of the grounds. The camera twists in and out of giant sculptures, climbing steps and capturing the serene purity of water fountains. You can move from the grounds to the inside in seconds, but be warned: it can be a little confusing, and at first you feel as lost as an Eskimo in New York. But this is the only significant flaw in *20th Century Art*. In the rush to provide a distinctive guide, simplicity has been sacrificed. Intuitive it isn't. A bee icon flies over the index, a tiny circle flicks you to an annotated glossary and a lizard opens up the audio files. All very cute, all very holistic in the heat-haze environment, but the last thing you need from an interface is gimmicks, however appropriate.

It's the art, however, that really shines through. Mindblowing, without a stuffy realist in sight, the works fit perfectly into the overall ambience of the buildings. They act as both functional decor and outstanding monuments to 20th century achievement. Provoking, confusing, entertaining – everything that art should be.

20th Century Art does many things. As the potential of CD-ROM expands, it lays down a gauntlet to every other product currently in production and states, with the classiest of agendas, that there is no excuse for dull, unimaginative trawls through virtual worlds. You the user are not merely a receiver of information, but a living, thoughtful, highly complex human being capable of, gulp, interaction.

20th Century Art is a wonderfully individual artistic work in itself and, despite the flies and lizards, peels open a magical visual avalanche whose delicate wonder somehow makes the world a better place.

GIL GILLESPIE



The best swimming pool in the world? Probably.

HIP PRIESTS

Marguerite and Aime Maeght were very much a part of the Cote D'Azur art scene from the 1920s onwards, and counted among their friends the likes of Matisse, Giacometti and Paul Eluard. Not exactly the dullest of dinner guests.

Miro could not be accused of lacking imagination. Or, for that matter, wit.

20TH CENTURY ART

Price: £44.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: LCII or better, System 7.1 or later, 8Mb of free RAM, 256-colour monitor, 4Mb of free hard disk space, double-speed CD-ROM drive.
Contact: Matra Hachette Multimedia on 0181 600 6000

MACFORMAT RATING 84%

Le Louvre

It's one of the world's most famous art galleries and houses many of the world's most famous paintings. Can a virtual tour reveal the Louvre's true colours?

The £8 entrance fee for the Louvre leaves you with just enough change from a tenner for coffee in a Parisien café later. To armchair travellers, *Le Louvre* may seem like the answer to your dreams. No expensive shuttle service to Paris. No smelly Metro. Just slam the disc in your drive and off you go.

But, alas, away you go slowly. Even on a PowerMac, the disc chugs along at the speed of the Euro trains on the English side of the Channel. Still, the first glance is encouraging. The title glides onto your monitor with accompanying classical music, then fades into the summary screen, offering you a tour of the palace or the collections.

The Palace section gives an insight into the Louvre at various stages of its history. The narrator tells you of its gradual change of use from prison and fortress to palace, and finally to museum, and you can read biographies of the people involved in those changes.

Clicking on the Evolution section reveals the layout of the palace at different times, and you can look at key sites in further detail. It's all very fascinating, but you don't really want to learn about the history of the Louvre, do you? Wouldn't you rather see the works of art it contains?

Unfortunately, despite the museum's vast collection, the Collections section of the CD offers you a mere 100 exhibits. Nevertheless, the presentation of the artwork is good. The art is divided up into French, English, Italian, Spanish, German, Flemish and Dutch schools and the centuries in which they were painted. Each section gives you up to 16 paintings to look at – click on the paintings in an area and you can view each of them at almost full-screen, with a commentary and further text about the painter and the picture. You can zoom in on any part of the picture you want to see in more detail, and there's a scale function to give you an idea of the picture's actual size. The painting technique is explained and you can have lines superimposed on the painting to show you how the perspective works.

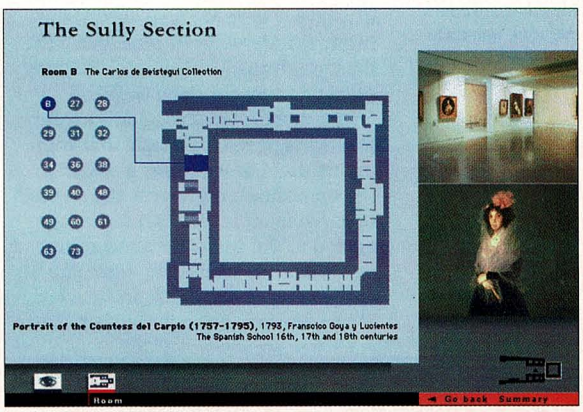
It's just a shame that you don't get any impression of the gallery itself – this is frustrating, when you consider that technology now enables you to take virtual tours. You just get a map and picture of each different gallery, which makes you wonder if a guide book wouldn't have been as useful.

This is not an exhaustive tour of the Louvre. The CD is informative and you can survey the artwork in detail, but the 100 paintings covered are a mere fraction of the Louvre's contents, and the CD is very slow. It costs more to get the train, plane or ferry, but it's the only way you'll see the Louvre in its true glory.

RACHEL HARRISON

IS THAT ALL?

The Louvre's 51,690m² space contains 2,500 sculptures, 10,000 objets d'art, 190,000 drawings, 144,000 Greek, Roman, Egyptian and Oriental antiquities, and 6,000 paintings. Of these, 100 paintings are covered in *Le Louvre*.


The Sully Section
Room B The Carlos de Beistegui Collection
Portrait of the Countess del Carpio (1757-1795), 1793, Francisco Goya y Lucientes
The Spanish School 16th, 17th and 18th centuries
Room
Go back Summary

The handy layout map shows you where the pictures are situated in the gallery. You can zoom in on the room, but won't get a virtual gallery 3D effect.

This is Seaport with Sunset, painted by Claude Gellée (also known as Le Lorrain) in 1639. You can also access a biography of the artist.

The Louvre started life in 1190 as a prison and fortress – today it's home to thousands of tourists, and the odd painting.

LE LOUVRE

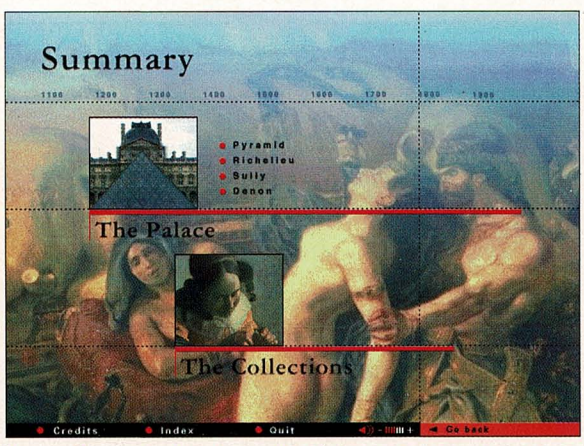
Price: £44.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: LCIII or better, System 7 or later, 3.5Mb of free RAM minimum, 256-colour 13-inch monitor, CD-ROM drive.
Contact: BMG Interactive on 0171 973 0011.

MACFORMAT RATING 76%

THE PERPETRATOR

The Pyramid entrance to the Louvre was designed by Leoh Ming Pei, an American architect of Chinese origin. He also transformed and reorganised the Louvre's underground space in 1983.

The architect Leoh Ming Pei decided that the Louvre palace needed a vast Pyramid added to it – it's 35.4m long on all four sides and 21.65m high and contains 666 diamond-shaped panes of glass.



You can either explore the palace and find out more about its history, or head straight for the art collections. It's a shame you can only see 100 paintings.

Widget Workshop

If you and your kids love making gadgets, or want to find out about how computers work, this is a fun way to learn. But does it blind you with science?

Widget Workshop attempts to explain computers while you have fun. Using this self-styled 'mad scientist's laboratory', you assemble devices on your Mac's screen using a range of objects, each of which fulfils its own basic role. The input devices include an on/off switch and a device that responds to mouse movement, while output devices include loudspeakers and number-based digital displays. There are also all sorts of intermediate ways of processing the data you transmit through whatever manic contraption you build.

The devices you create follow the principles of Boolean logic that computers use. For example, a switch in the on position represents the number one, while off is zero. An object connected to the switch behaves in one of two ways, depending on what you do to the switch. A more sophisticated object like an AND gate accepts numbers from two switches at once and processes them, before sending the result to a device, such as a light bulb. If the numbers are the same, the AND gate registers a 'one' and the bulb lights up; if the numbers are different, the bulb stays off.

This of course is how computers work – pulses of electricity surge through chips and register zeroes or ones. From this starting point, the idea is that you continue to construct switches and gates that behave in certain ways until you end up with a Mac. *Widget Workshop* won't replicate your Mac itself, but you can create some pretty complex gadgets. It's aimed at children as they learn about computers for the first time, but like all the best playthings, the adults will want their turn on it too.

It's ludicrously easy to master the basic controls. You have seven drawers of objects you can drag onto your work surface. The drawers divide the objects into groups like display, timing or number and logic tools. Each object has at least one connection point, and you can join any points together by clicking and holding your mouse to hook a line from one to the other. The only other controls are a tool for removing objects or cutting lines, and another for moving the entire work surface around the screen. If you can't figure out what an object does, just double-click on it and a dialogue box explains all.

Using the program isn't difficult, but understanding it might be. The manual takes you through the basic ideas behind the program, but by the time you're halfway through, you'll be grateful if there's someone with a good maths brain around.

Widget Workshop is labelled as being suitable for children from the age of eight, but it's asking a lot to expect someone that age to get to grips with the program's principles. Children of 11 or 12, though, are likely to roll up their sleeves with glee and get stuck in. But if the program sets its sights too high, it's forgivable. Unlike so many other CD-ROMs, where you simply sit and watch the screen, *Widget Workshop* enables you to learn through doing – which is a far more constructive approach.

RICHARD HILL

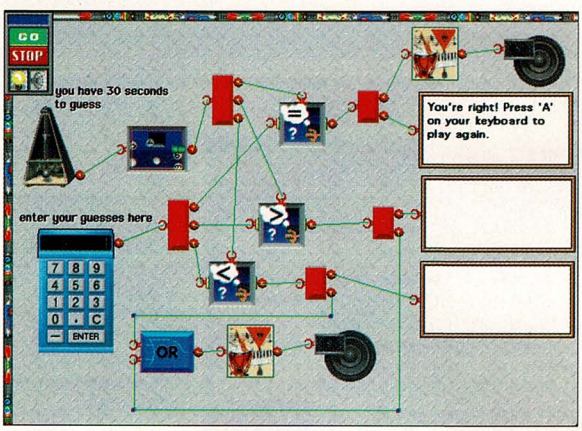
ACTIVITY KIT

To help you get used to the many devices available in *Widget Workshop* and how they work with each other, there's a booklet full of projects to make and adapt.

WIDGET WORKSHOP

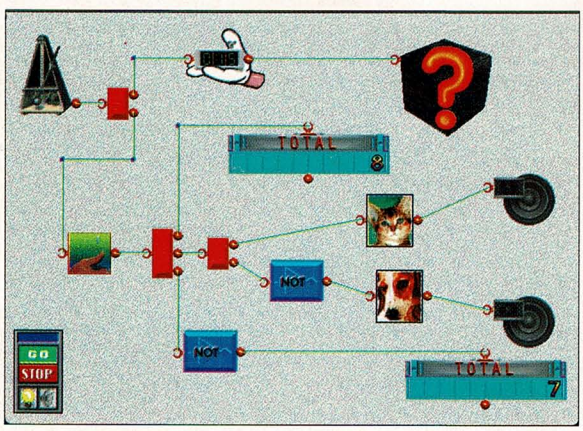
Price: £29.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: LCII or better, 4Mb of RAM, System 6.0.7 or later, 256-colour monitor, CD-ROM drive.
Contact: Maxis on 0171 490 2333.

MACFORMAT RATING 84%

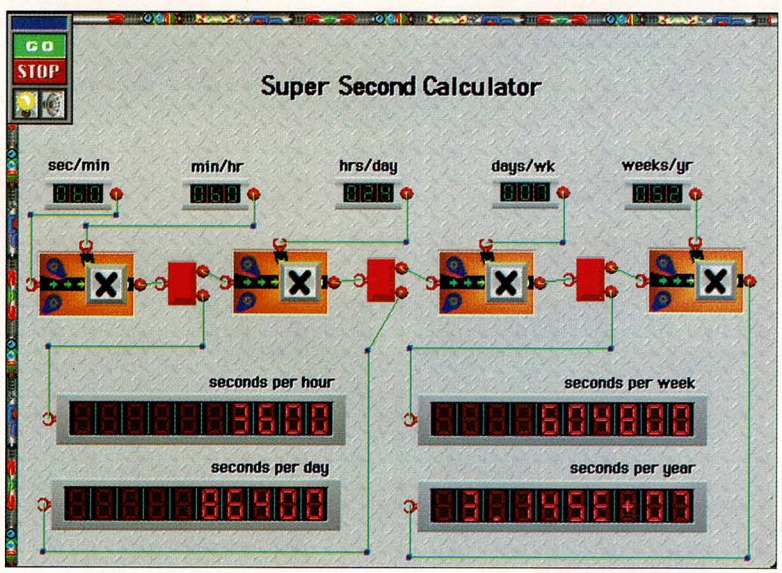


The metronome keeps time while you enter your guesses at a secret random number. The sound of applause tells you you've won.

The main control panel gives you easy access to all the tools, including switches and logic calculators.



In this probability test, a coin is flipped 100 times. If it's heads, a cat miaows; while if it's tails, or 'NOT', a dog barks. Logical, Captain.



Using *Widget Workshop*, you can build your own simple computer – but the parts aren't the type you'd find in a Mac. It's an easy, fun way to learn the principles, though.

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie

Theoretically, multimedia has the potential to bring kids' books to life, and educate your children without them even noticing. *Theoretically,* that is.

Give a mouse a cookie and what? He moves into a cupboard and leaves droppings in your cups and saucers? He grows to the size of a T-Rex and terrorises your family? He invites the rest of his clan over and spreads bubonic plague across Europe?

Wrong on all three counts. In *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* things are a lot less interesting than that. The mouse comes over, cleans your house, draws a picture for you to put on your fridge, and asks for another cookie. Oooof. How very dull.

Perhaps it is slightly harsh to judge *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* on its unadventurous plot alone. After all, many children's stories are predictable when you get down to it. The trouble with this interactive storybook from HarperCollins is that, apart from the fact that it's terminally dull in the story department, it isn't particularly interactive, and even the multimedia side fails to deliver much pizzazz.

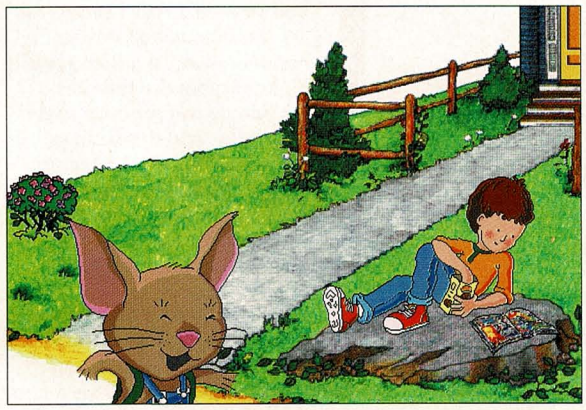
Set up in a similar way to *George Shrinks* (reviewed on page 102), the disc gives you the choice of either 'playing' through the story or having it read to you. To add a marginal element of educational value, the words of the story appear on the screen and light up as they're read out. Whichever way you and kiddies work through the story, however, it fails to entertain. Part of the problem is that everything is so slow. It takes about 45 minutes to go through the whole thing on a Mac with a 68030 chip and a double-speed drive, but you spend most of this time waiting for sounds and animations to load.

Worse, none of the sounds or animations is really worth waiting for. Although *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* tries harder than *George Shrinks* on the animation front, it's still a loser – most of the animations are small, predictable and ultimately futile. The only fun bits come occasionally when, having clicked on something, you're whisked off for a neat sideshow with bigger animations and lots of sounds. This could be a performance by a band of cookies, a quick slideshow story, or a musical quiz. It's just a shame that these jump-out sideshows don't really relate to the story – they could have worked well if they supplemented the plot, or even if they were more fun.

There just isn't enough to this disc. Even compared to most other interactive storybooks (a genre not known for depth of content) it's slim – there's not enough story and too few animations. The best thing about it is the sound – there's quite a bit of music and some singing, which children may find entertaining.

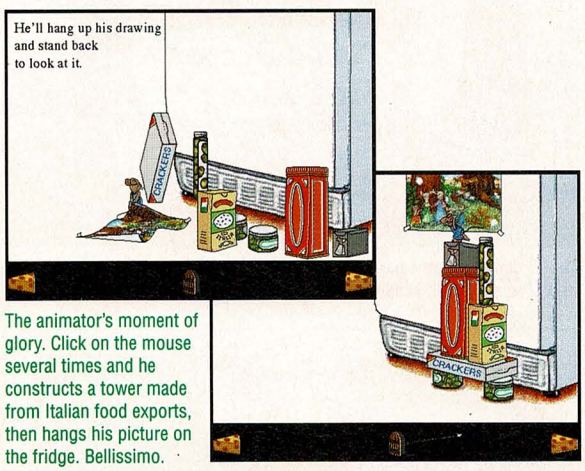
If You Give a Mouse a Cookie is just another piece of bandwagon multimedia – a big publisher wanting in on the CD-ROM scene and churning out insubstantial products. It might amuse the younger end of the three to seven age-group at which it's aimed, but you'd probably be better off just buying the teeny-weeny storybook on which the disc is based, and saving yourself a fortune. Reading a book to your kids might take a little effort, but the experience is certainly more interactive. And hey, who needs a Macintosh and CD-ROM budget to put their kids to sleep?

GARRICK WEBSTER



No one taught this mouse to refuse cookies from strangers. Hence, like the rest of the animal kingdom, his fate is eternal bondage under the manchild.

This looks promising. You'd expect this bit to enable kids to colour in the picture by hand. Denied. You just click on the crayons and the colours fill in automatically. No imagination required.



The animator's moment of glory. Click on the mouse several times and he constructs a tower made from Italian food exports, then hangs his picture on the fridge. Bellissimo.

GIVE A MOUSE A COOKIE

Price: £39.99. **Out:** now.
Age range: three to seven.
Requires: LCII or better, 5Mb of RAM (8Mb recommended), System 7 or later, 256-colour, 13-inch monitor.
Contact: HarperCollins on 0181 307 4103.

MACFORMAT RATING 55%

George Shrinks

Another teeny-weeny children's book becomes an interactive storybook. Load it up, read it through, and experience that shrinking feeling for yourself...

If you've seen *Honey I Shrunk the Kids, The Incredible Shrinking Woman* or even *Fantastic Voyage*, you know that the idea of shrinking people can produce some fantastic humour and drama in a story. The world of the imagination is, literally, a much bigger place when everyone in it is the size of Tom Thumb. Considering this, *George Shrinks* could have been a great CD-ROM for children.

Unfortunately, it isn't. *George Shrinks* is the tale of young boy who wakes up one morning to find that he has shrunk. Next to his bed he finds a note from his parents instructing him to do his normal chores, and now that he's so small he finds a whole new perspective on the world.

Aimed at three to seven year olds, *George Shrinks* has a short and basic storyline. To liven it up, the disc includes all the traits you'd expect of an interactive storybook. For example, as children page through the short tale they can activate hotspots on the screen, while clicking certain objects triggers off funny little animations and sound effects, and there are even three musical interludes to be found. Click on the giant duck in George's bathtub, for instance, and it spits water. Click on George while he's at the sink and he sings a song to his toothbrush: 'My my brush/Don't you bristle at me...'

While the music on the disc is rather good (using CD-ROM's capability to reproduce digital quality sound) the animations tend towards the lame side. Many of them are there purely for quick giggles and serve no purpose in developing the plot; hence there's no reason for kids to explore around the disc and find them. Some of the animations are wacky enough to be interesting, but the overall effect doesn't measure up the the surreal craziness of Brøderbund's *Ruff's Bone* (MF 19, 95%) nor does the story contain any sort of conflict or intrigue to keep growing minds engaged.

Then there's the plod factor. Although it's a good thing that the program runs entirely from the CD and requires no hard disk space, it is tediously slow. If you have a 68030 processor and double-speed CD-ROM drive, your kids will quickly become agitated with the slowness of the whole thing, and do something else.

Ultimately, *George Shrinks* falls flat. It's cute, it has nice drawings, and the music's reasonable, but the story and animations are weak. The disc does narrate the story, highlighting the words that are being said on the screen at the same time, which makes it feel like there's some vague educational motive to the whole thing. But it's just too short and too dull.

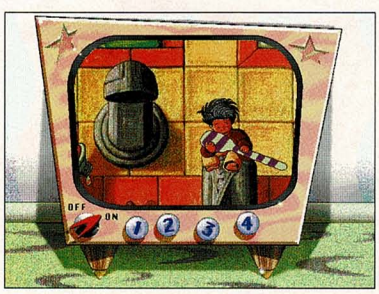
By the way, you also get a pocket-sized version of the original book in the box when you buy this disc. Perhaps you should buy that by itself and read it to your children, rather than shelling out the quids on another sub-standard CD.

GARRICK WEBSTER

The TV comes on announcing four options. Children can play with the book, have it read to them, jump to any screen or go straight to the songs.

Just don't ask. George, although smaller now than his kid brother, goes on some sort of power trip, and this is the result. Meanwhile the words to the story are highlighted as they're read out.

One of the better screens for pointing and clicking. George leads the mischievous frogs in a chorus of ribbits if you find the right spot to click.

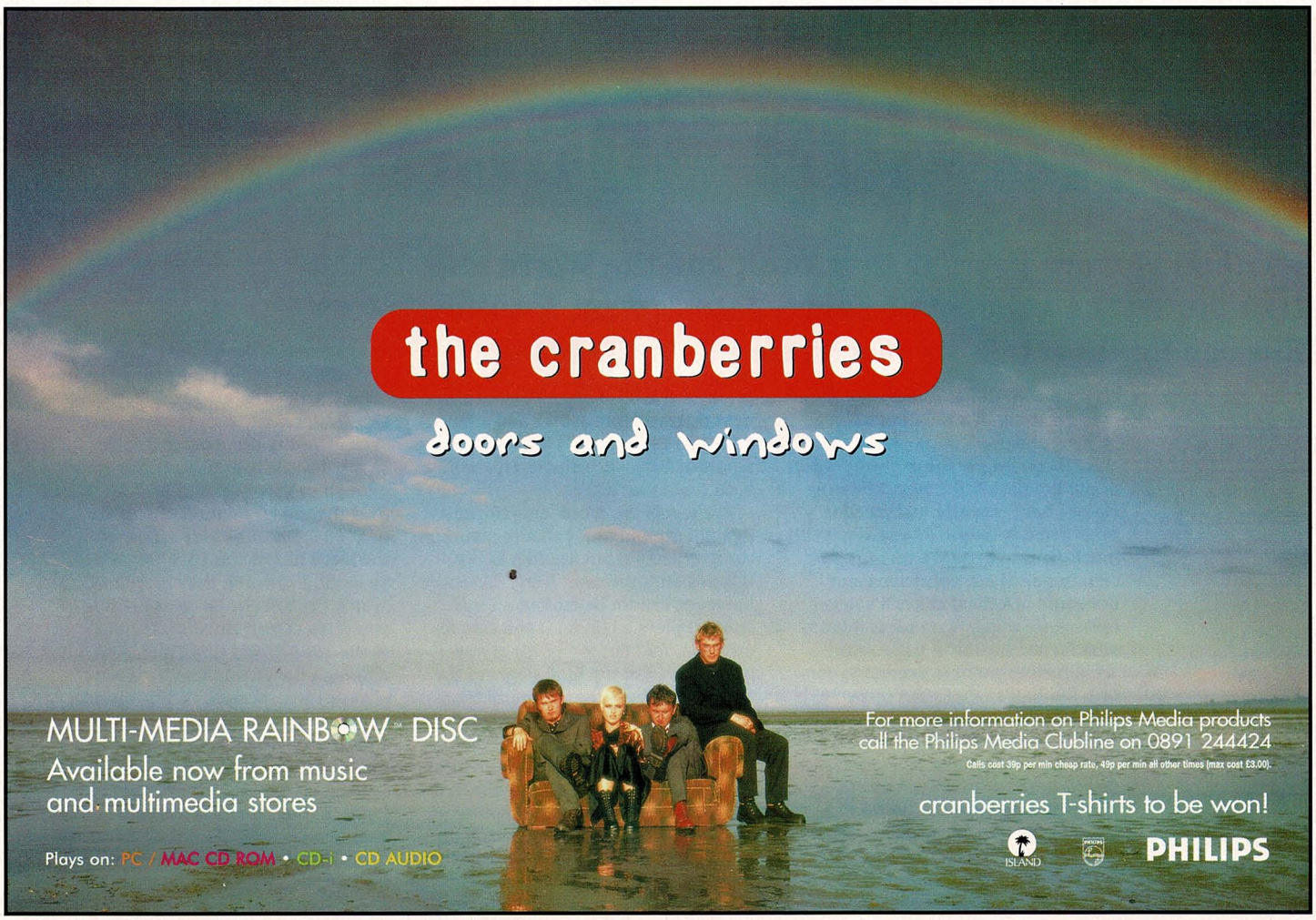


Here you can sing along with George as he serenades his now-giant toothbrush.

GEORGE SHRINKS

Price: £39.99. **Out:** now.
Age range: three to seven.
Requires: LCII or better, 5Mb of RAM (8Mb recommended), System 7 or later, 256-colour, 13-inch monitor.
Contact: HarperCollins on 0181 307 4103.

MACFORMAT RATING 53%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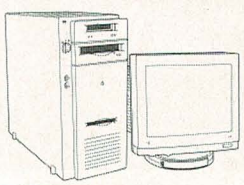

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World Cup Soccer

Football is more popular than ever, and the World Cup transforms the calmest of people into fervent fanatics. But can footie retain its fascination on a CD-ROM?

Football has undergone something of a renaissance over the past couple of years. It's no longer the exclusive sport of the hoi polloi; the tsatsiki-eating classes have recently embraced it with a newly-acquired passion. With much-flaunted endorsement from certain pop stars, politicians and first-time novelists alike, it's never been more trendy to confess a fondness for the beautiful game. And what further proof is needed to confirm football's newfound respectability than a CD-ROM title dedicated to its premier trophy?

The World Cup Soccer Multimedia Encyclopedia 1930-1994 is basically a statistical history of the World Cup with some multimedia shenanigans attached. Now this statement might seem to contradict the stereotypical loutish grain, but your average football fan is as prone to trainspotter tendencies as the next man with an anorak and a lunchbox. And this is where *World Cup Soccer* scores heavily – it includes an absolute wealth of knowledge.

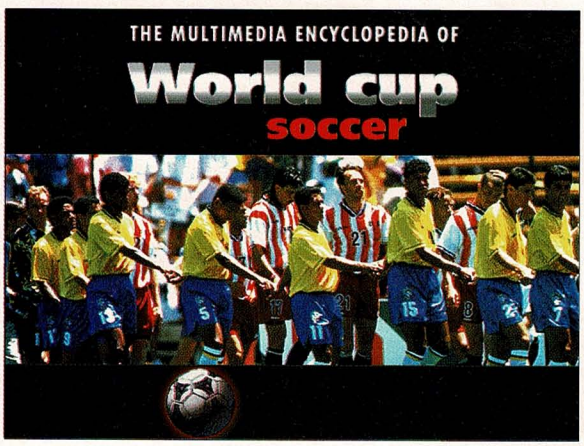
The use of the word 'encyclopedia' in a title should imply that the work is comprehensive, but as often as not this just ain't the case. *World Cup Soccer*, however, cannot be faulted on this score. It plays a blinder – you can, for example, find out the result of any game played in the final stages of the World Cup, from the inaugural tournament held in Uruguay in 1930 to the recent Stateside showbiz bonanza in 1994. Despite its quantity, the information is easy to access, and screen navigation is an absolute doddle. If you're prepared to scratch beneath the surface, you can also find the team selection for each game, along with the records of all the goal-scorers, yellow and red cards, and substitutions. There are also details of the individual players and their careers. In football parlance, 'the CD-ROM done good'.

As a reference work (albeit on one specific area of the game) it's a winner, and will keep die-hard stats-freaks 'over the moon', but what does *World Cup Soccer* offer the more casual fan? Well, if you're prepared to dribble mazily from screen to screen, there's enough to keep you occupied for well over the full 90 minutes. There are over 60 QuickTime video clips, with the focus heavily on USA '94, and a pleasant distraction they make too. Watch the ball clearly cross the line as you replay Geoff Hurst's infamous goal in the 1966 World Cup Final. And although the picture quality is not always 100% perfect, you do wonder how on earth the 'bastard' referee didn't spot Maradona punch the ball into the net in 1986.

Narrated slideshows are available for each tournament. These are accompanied by some excellent action photography and some cheesy soundtracks – the 1966 slide show grooves along to the ersatz backbeat of the Fab Four. On the downside, they are all too brief and probably don't reveal any information that Mr Joe Armchair wouldn't know already.

At the end of the day, *World Cup Soccer* is an excellent if somewhat specialised reference tool for anybody with a keen interest in the international side of the game. And if you're an occasional fan, there's just enough entertaining diversity contained in this disc to keep you singing on the terraces too.

GARY TIPP



For the die-hard traditionalist, *The World Cup of Football* would have been a more appropriate title.

1966 and all that. *World Cup Soccer* could have paid more attention to the best tournament ever.

Statistics abound in *World Cup Soccer* and will quench the keenest of fans' thirst for knowledge.

There is an impressive gallery of high-quality sports photography on offer on the disc.

The players and teams from the 1994 competition are all featured – at least the manager is English.

WORLD CUP SOCCER

Price: £44.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: LCII or better, 4Mb of RAM, System 7 or later, 256-colour monitor, 4Mb of hard disk space, double-speed CD-ROM drive.
Contact: Softline on 0181 401 1234.

MACFORMAT RATING 76%

Corel All-Movie Guide

The world's largest movie guide may cover thousands of films, but does it give you any real insight? More to the point, does it tell you what's worth seeing?

Anything called an *All-Movie Guide* is daring you to find the one movie that's not mentioned. But you'll have problems finding many films missing, unless they were made after 1994 – the *All-Movie Guide* covers over 90,000 films. The blurb on the cover stating that it's the world's largest movie guide is no idle boast.

Starting at the main menu, which is designed like a video store, you can browse through various categories of film or television shows, or go straight to the information section, which contains a full list of titles. Scrolling through these is time consuming, so use the Search Wizard if you want to find something specific.

If you're more interested in the stars than the films, you can find brief biographies of 14,359 of them in Browse Famous Stars. For something more visual, go to the People with Photos and Interviews section, which contains 400 photos and 70 video interviews.

There are lots of other ways you can navigate the disk – choose stars by their birthdays, select films to match your mood, discover who won what award when, or test your new-found knowledge on a few games. You can also note your own remarks against the entries for future reference.

But quantity doesn't necessarily mean quality. Once you've found the film or personality you're interested in, the information is dull, both in content and visually. Some of the films have only four lines to describe them, including a breakdown of the cast, where it was filmed, and the audience at which it's aimed. There are no stills from the films, let alone video clips. If the film is American or English, it might have a star rating, but some films have so little information that you have no idea whether they're worth seeing or not.

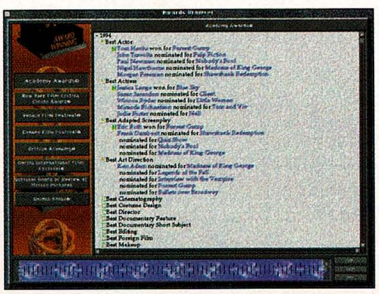
While the biographies of the stars are at least occasionally extensive, the video interviews seem to be there just to prove that this really is multimedia. The clips are roughly 30 seconds long, and you can hear anything from Julie Andrews talking about *Star!* (what?) to Kim Basinger giggling about her role in *Batman* and raving how 'good people work well with good people'. What an insight, eh?

The disk is also riddled with mistakes. Rupert Everett is mentioned a few times as Ruypert, and don't forget Elie Macpherson (occupation: actor).

The *All-Movie Guide* contains a vast amount of information which the CD-ROM makes easy to access. If you like film guides with personality, however, try something like *Cinemania*, which is also more visually appealing and contains far more photographs as well as a few film clips. **RACHEL HARRISON**

Your first view of the disk and the main menu for accessing the rest of it. Unfortunately, the rest doesn't look quite so friendly.

You can browse through films by categories such as Comedy and Action, or you can go to the Mood Browser and select films according to your mood.



If you want to know who won what and when, it's all here, but you won't necessarily find out what the winner looks like.

The occasional star is on hand to divulge snippets about themselves or films they've made. But it's crammed into 30 seconds or so, which doesn't give much time for deep reflection.

1991 Horror, Suspense starring Jane Cameron as Beth, Jeffrey Heyenga as Brad Marshall, Kathy Griffin as Connie Chicago, K. Calian as Martha Wellington
The Unborn
Guess Who's Coming for Christmas?
A Perfect World
New Jack City
Action & Adventure
Popular Movies
Science Fiction
Recent Movies
Computer

Why do reference guides always test your knowledge? Let's face it, you're not likely to remember information about 90,000 films.

COREL ALL-MOVIE GUIDE

Price: £57.57. **Out:** now.
Requires: LCII or better, 8Mb of RAM, System 7.1 or later, 14-inch monitor, double-speed CD-ROM drive.
Contact: Channel Marketmakers on 01703 814142.

MACFORMAT RATING 63%

SEE ALSO...

Cinemania '95 from Microsoft (0345 002000) costs £58.75 and was reviewed in full in MACFORMAT 26. It contains the text of Leonard Maltin's *Movie and Video Guide 1995*, more than 1,700 reviews from Roger Ebert's *Video Companion 1995*, over 2,500 from Pauline Kael's *5001 Nights at the Movies*, as well as other reviews, cinema topics and an authoritative glossary of cinematic terms.

EMERALD Creative Technology

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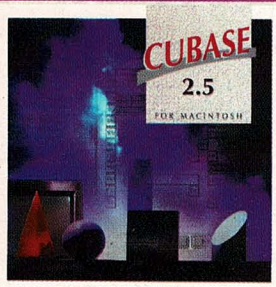

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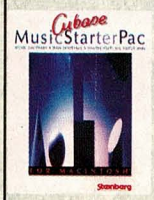

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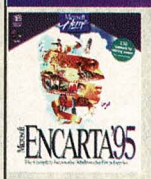

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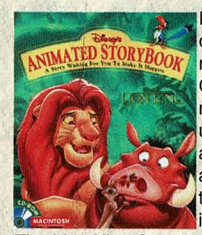

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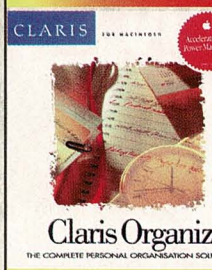

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QuickTime

If a picture says a thousand words, then a QuickTime movie must say around 15,000 a second. Marcus Dyson discovers how to make them speak for you...

Find out what you can do with QuickTime – take a look at the movies on the CD

You could be forgiven for thinking that QuickTime is all about pictures the size of a postage stamp playing back at about three frames a second. Until recently it was. But things have changed drastically with the recent appearance of QuickTime 2.0. QuickTime, Apple's proprietary video compression/decompression and playback system, is now capable of delivering video to your Mac screen directly from CD-ROM, at a very acceptable quality.

QuickTime's most obvious use is for multimedia reference work, since it enables you to easily give the viewer short video clips and explanatory animations. QuickTime is also being put to use by companies making training CD-ROMs showing how to use pieces of software. But with the increasing popularity of the Internet, digital video is also becoming the fastest form of visual communication available. A one minute QuickTime can take up as little as 6Mb, which costs around 90p to upload to the Internet at BT's new weekend rates – cheaper than sending by mail, and faster too.

But the best use for QuickTime is just to have good fun. A Mac with AV card is only £100 more expensive than one without. With a video camera, an AV Mac and some cheap software (shareware even), you can do quicker and better video editing than ever before, and you can create special effects that even Hollywood could only dream about ten years ago.

Don't get compressed

The only difference between a professional digital video system and QuickTime comes down to storage space and data transfer rates. A full-screen, true-colour image on a 14-inch monitor is about 1Mb in size. Television displays 50 fields per second, so to get true broadcast quality you would need to transfer 50Mb a second. Professional digital video systems have gigabytes of RAM, and terabytes of hard drive space, but, because your Mac hasn't, QuickTime has to compress images heavily – into JPEGs.

Even after heavy compression, QuickTime movies are large. As a result, they are usually distributed and run from CD-ROM, but most CD-ROM drives can only transfer around 300Kb per second. For a 15fps (frames per second) movie, this only gives 20K per frame for graphics and sound. JPEGs are tiny, and give excellent image quality, but they take a long time to decompress. To get around this, QuickTime uses codecs – compression/decompression algorithms. These are asymmetrical – they take a long time to compress while you're making a movie, but they must decompress almost instantly so that you can play it back at a reasonable frame rate.

Codecs?

QuickTime has a number of codecs, each of which uses a different compression method and is designed for a different purpose. The two most useful are CinePak, which is ideal for video work, and Animation, which is best for computer created images. The Animation codec looks at the two images and only saves the parts that have changed. This is ideal for computer created images, but in digitised images the pixels often flicker and change between frames. For this reason, the CinePak codec uses a system of redundancies: it divides the image up into little squares (groups of a few pixels) and analyses whether they are within a certain range of one another's colours. If they are, it makes them all the same colour. This has the effects of pixelating the image, and gives the classic QuickTime 'blocky' picture.

Traditionally, *the* QuickTime editing and manipulation program has been Adobe's excellent *Premiere* (£658 from Principal on 01706 832000), which scored 90% in MACFORMAT 21. Over the next few pages, however, we check out a few newer programs that you can use to record and edit video, add special effects and sounds, and even use for animation. You can even have a go yourself, using *QuickEditor*, a superb shareware QuickTime editing package, which is included on this month's covermounted CD-ROM.

CONFUSED?

If you want to find out more about video editing, take a look at our feature in MACFORMAT 21 (turn to page 125 if you missed that issue).

Continued on next page

Multimedia Utilities

This mixed bundle of QuickTime programs has something for every moviemaker, at a bargain price. Marcus Dyson dives into the QuickTime continuum.

MORPH PROGRAMS

Morph (£117) and *Elastic Reality* (£292) are both dedicated morph programs from Softline (0181 401 1234), and were both reviewed in MACFORMAT 26.

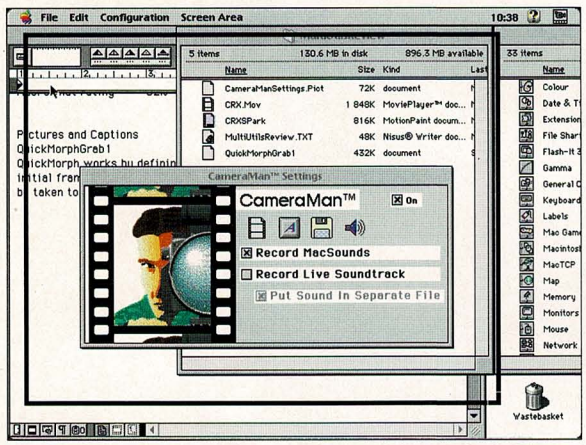
Multimedia Utilities is a selection of six utilities that either enhance existing QuickTime movies or create new ones. It's a mixed bag, so let's take a look at the six separate packages one by one.

CameraMan

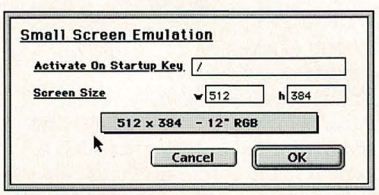
CameraMan is basically a cheap version of *Instant Replay* (see page 113). It captures the events that occur on your Mac's screen and saves them out as a QuickTime movie.

The biggest problem screen movie capture programs face is fitting the captured movie into the screen it was captured on. *CameraMan* solves this in two ingenious ways: you can choose small screen emulation, which enables your Mac to run in an ultra low screen resolution; or you can elect to use the 'framer' and just grab a portion of the visible screen. If you use the framer, you can make it track around the screen using your mouse pointer, but tracking the cursor produces significantly larger file sizes.

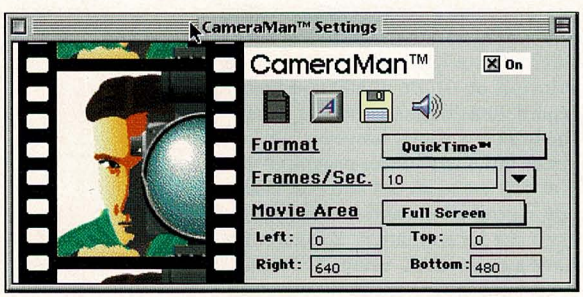
CameraMan might be useful if you're a software developer wanting to give rolling demos of your programs, or if you want to provide instructions on how to use software.



Use *CameraMan* to record what happens on screen, and turn it into a QuickTime movie. The framer enables you to select a small section of the screen.



CameraMan can make your Mac run in small screen emulation mode, so the full screen can fit on a movie window on a 14-inch monitor.

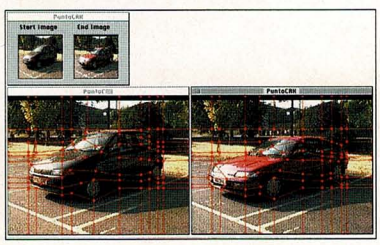


CameraMan can run completely in the background once it has been configured from this simple settings window.

QuickEdit

From its name you'd expect this to be a QuickTime editor along the lines of *Adobe Premiere* or *QuickEditor* (see page 112). But, rather than adding movies together one after the other, *QuickEdit* 'blends' them in the same frame – a better name might be *QuickCompositor.*

Once you get used to this idea, *QuickEdit* is a useful piece of software. Its obvious use is for adding titles and captions to QuickTime movies, and combined with *MotionPaint* and *CameraMan,* it's ideal. If you're more creative, you could combine QuickTimes to add laser bolts, explosions or wipes to other movies. You simply take the movie that you plan to superimpose onto the other, select the colour on it that will be transparent, then select which section of the 'background' movie it is to appear over. The only negative point is that *QuickEditor* does this better, and for less money.



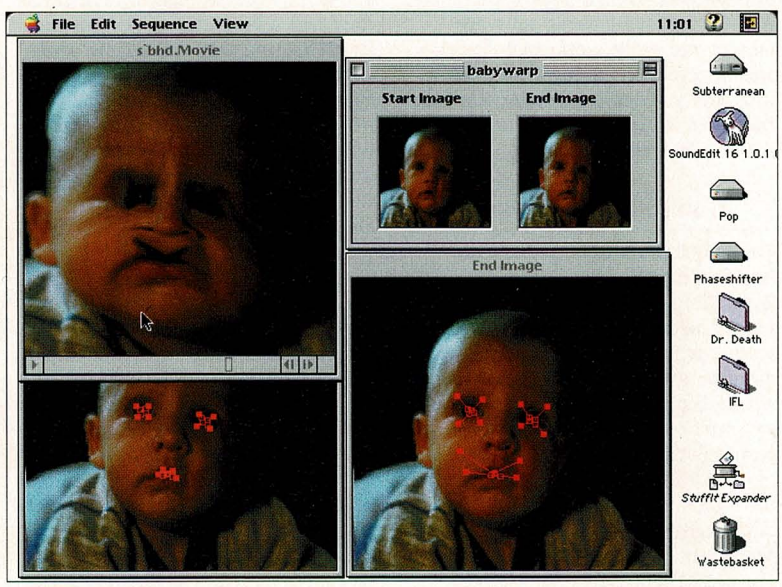
QuickMorph works by defining the positions of parts of the image on the initial frame, then where they will be on the final frame. Take care to ensure that the background doesn't move.

QuickMorph

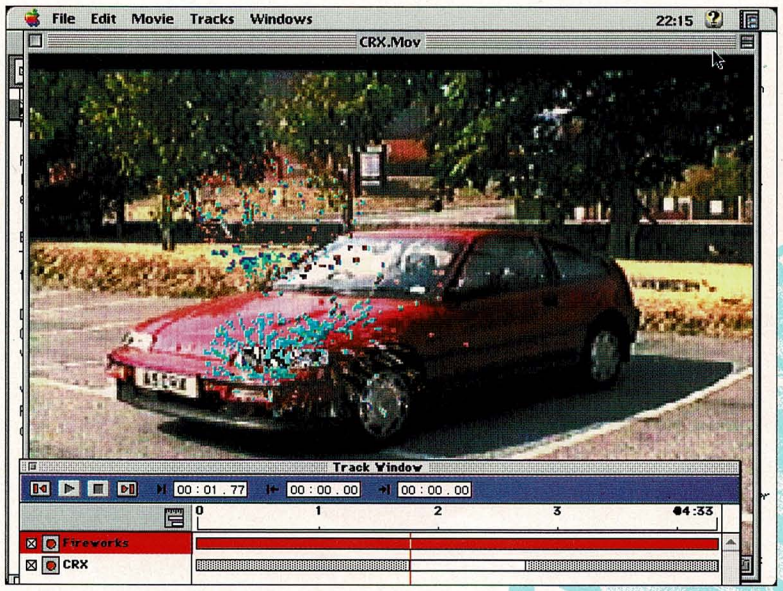
QuickMorph is a simple but effective morphing program, which works in much the same way as any other morphing package. It's less powerful than some, but as part of this bundle it's also enormously cheaper than dedicated morphing packages.

Morphing works by moving pixels from a start image towards the position they will occupy in a second image, while crossfading the images. The translational information is given to the program by one of two methods – Mesh or Lines – which you create by click-dragging on one of the images.

Mesh is more useful for true morphs. The mesh can be set up to hold some parts of the image in place while others move. The Lines method is more useful for warping a single image, where the first and last images



When you're using the Morph feature, what appear to be small changes can produce dramatic and hideous results. Be careful! Unless, of course, you're looking for results like these...



QuickEdit's name is deceiving. Rather than being a QuickTime editing package, it is a compositing program, enabling you to add one movie to another with chromakey-like effects.

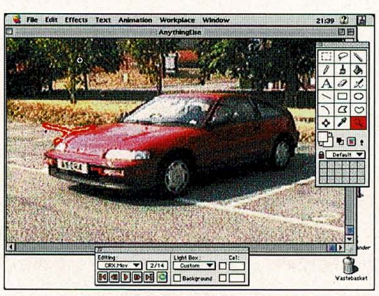
are the same and a stretching effect is applied to the image in between.

QuickMorph enables you to set a frame rate and duration for your morph, then create a movie using any of the QuickTime compression codecs. The results can be very effective, but you'll find that it takes quite a bit of practice before you know which methods of morphing will work best in which situations.

MotionPaint

Although *MotionPaint* is designed for creating animations that can be saved out as QuickTime movies, it also enables you to paint effects onto existing movies. If you use it to create animations, as is intended, *MotionPaint* works like any other animation software. It uses the backgrounds and actors principles, whereby an image can be loaded into the animation as a background, and it remains constant from frame to frame, only changing when there is a scene change. Other, smaller, images are loaded on top of the background, as actors. These usually move from frame to frame, or even change shape, colour or size between frames to create the illusion of animated motion. *MotionPaint* has a lightbox feature, which makes creating this effect easier by showing the position of actors from previous frames.

For simple animations, *MotionPaint* is as good as any other software, but its true strength comes when you import a QuickTime movie as an actor. The movie can then be drawn on frame by frame, creating effects like those created in the more expensive *MediaPaint* – reviewed on page 114.



When using *MotionPaint*, import a QuickTime movie into it as an actor – you can then create sophisticated special effects like those offered by *MediaPaint*, but at a fraction of the cost.

MovieClick

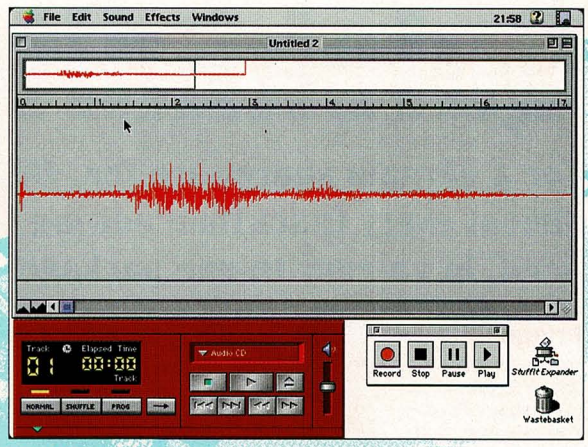
MovieClick is the strangest utility in this selection. You use it to add multimedia to a QuickTime movie. To do this, you define areas of the movie that can be clicked on, called HotSpots or HotFrames, within certain frames. When such a frame occurs, the movie pauses and waits for you to click on an area. The movie then jumps to a predefined movie and plays it.

When it's used with a QuickTime paint package like *MotionPaint* (included in this bundle), you can add text to give visual clues as to which area of the screen to click on, or a voice on the soundtrack can provide the impetus. *MovieClick* can be useful for creating simple educational movies and multimedia presentations.

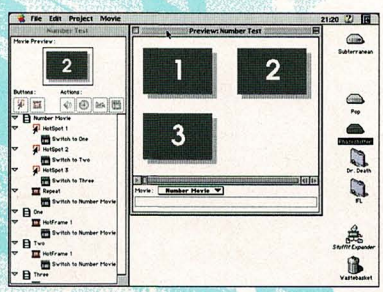
SoundMate

SoundMate is a sound recording and editing utility, which, although it wins no prizes for sophistication or all-out power, is simple and effective. It's also the perfect companion for *QuickEditor* (reviewed on page 112), which can edit and mix sounds into a QuickTime movie, but is limited when it comes to recording sounds, and even more so when it comes to editing them.

SoundMate also has the ability to edit sound to an animation, but these features are more suited to drawn animations created in *MoviePaint* than to QuickTime movies. *QuickEditor* can also handle this part of the production process admirably.



SoundMate is an effective sound recording and editing utility, offering 8 or 16 bit sound recording – straight off a CD, if you want – and editing.



MovieClick's flowchart is really a simple multimedia authoring language similar to that used by Macromedia's £4,000 *Authorware*.

Is it a bargain?

Multimedia Utilities is worth buying for *QuickMorph* and *CameraMan* alone. Once you throw *SoundMate* and *MotionPaint* into the pot, it's a real bargain. *MovieClick* and *QuickEdit* are nothing more than entertaining distractions, but they might just be vital for the job you're trying to do. *Multimedia Utilities* is a mixed set of programs, but at this price it's difficult to criticise it. **MF**

DEDICATED ANIMATION PROGRAMS

Animation Works (£152) from Gold Disk (01753 621224) and *PROmotion* (£296) from Gomark (0171 731 7930) are two animation programs that can get you started. They were both reviewed in MACFORMAT 26.

Continued on next page

MULTIMEDIA UTILITIES

Price: £229. **Out:** now.
Requires: Mac II or better, System 7 or later, 4Mb of RAM (8Mb recommended), enough hard drive space to store your movies – a lot.
Contact: Gomark on 0171 731 7930.

FEATURES 82%
This package is really designed for multimedia producers, but there is something here for every QuickTime user.

EASE OF USE 78%
Integrating some of these packages into one application rather than six utilities might have made it easier to learn.

DOCUMENTATION 82%
Clear and concise. However, because you get six separate manuals in one volume it tends to repeat itself.

VALUE FOR MONEY 92%
The screen capture and morphing package make this a bargain; the other packages are interesting extras.

MACFORMAT RATING 82%

CHROMAKEY

Chromakey is a technique used to overlay images to make up one composite image. This is achieved by making one or more colours transparent so that other images can be seen when they're overlaid. A typical example would be filming an actor on a 'blue-screen' background, so that you can make that background transparent and add the film to, say, an animation.

QuickEditor

For a bargain shareware fee, *QuickEditor* offers almost every QuickTime editing function you might need, in an easy-to-use package.

STUNNING

Because everything in *QuickEditor* takes place on one screen, it's not the world's most visual program, but the results it produces are stunning. Check out the QuickTime movies on the cover CD, now.

QuickEditor is one of the greatest pieces of Mac software ever written. It's a shareware QuickTime editor, offering every feature the amateur user could want, and every feature the professional QuickTime editor regularly uses. It's also a serious competitor to *Adobe Premiere* and, at a piffling shareware fee of $20, it's over £600 cheaper, not to mention far easier to use.

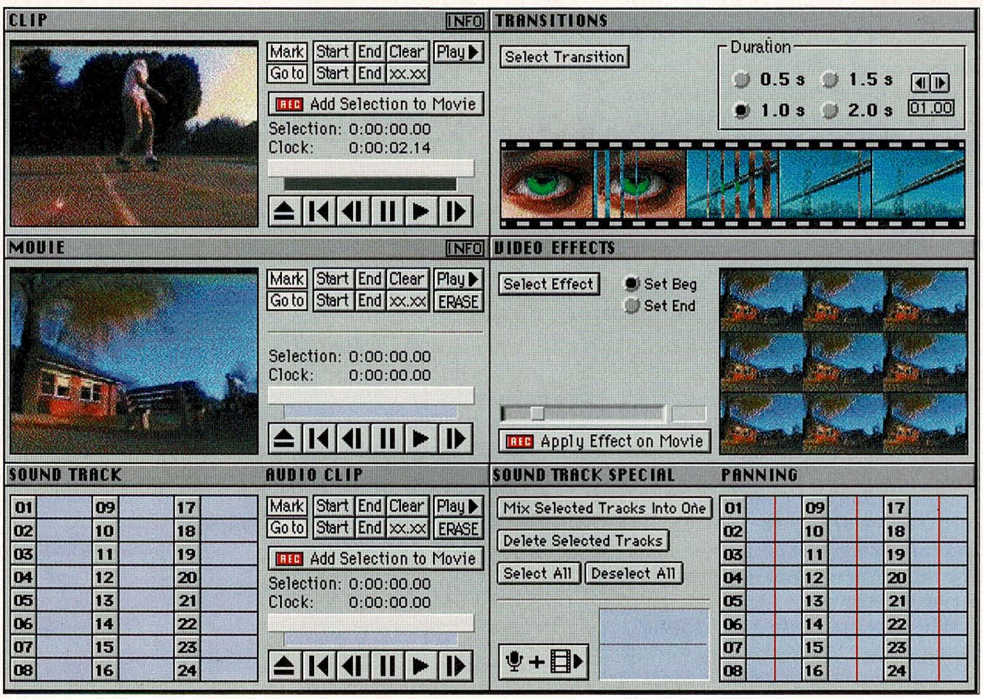
QuickEditor enables you to edit movies by adding pieces in the middle or at the end of an existing movie. Sections can be marked and deleted, or you can apply a varied range of transitions to them. All the typical wipes and fades are included as plug ins, right through to 3D effects like image-mapped-cube rolls and spinning rectangles – the kind of things that would have required a multi-million-pound Quantel paintbox a few years ago.

Try *QuickEditor* for yourself – the unregistered version is on the CD

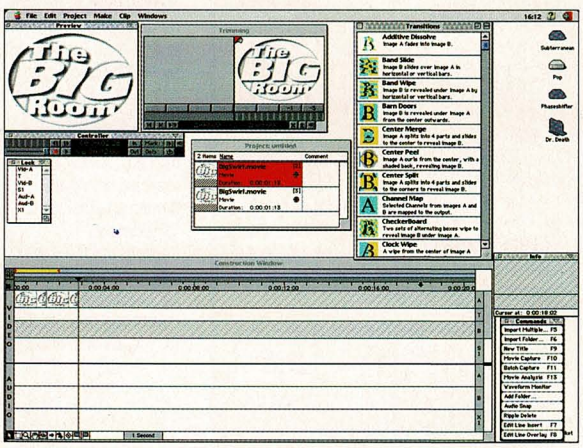
Everything in *QuickEditor* takes place on one slightly crowded but easy-to-understand console (which fits snugly on a 640x480 window), rather than a mess of separate windows. The only downside of this is that the movie preview windows are a little small (160x120), but clicking on either preview screen brings up a standard, full-sized, QuickTime window in which you can play the movie. If you use this window to find a position in the movie, it also moves the movie in the small edit window to the same position. The console can be shown in several reduced forms, if you don't require transitions and video effects, and if you're not editing sound as well.

One of *QuickEditor's* more impressive features is its Video Effects panel, which enables you to place one of many special effects on any section of the movie. These run the gamut from simple colour and exposure adjustments right through to a chromakey effect that enables *QuickEditor* to do the same things that *Multimedia Utilities' QuickEdit* can do. The only downside is that it displays the transition or effect currently selected using an image, which, while useful in that it shows you what the effect actually does, doesn't help you keep track of what each one is called. A plus would be to have the name of the currently active transition/effect printed to the screen below the **Select transition/effect** box. Apart from this small flaw, *QuickEditor* is almost faultless.

Editing couldn't be simpler. You just



QuickEditor handles all the tasks of QuickTime, transitions, effects and sound editing in one easy-to-use console. This is more than many of its competitors, some costing hundreds of pounds more, can manage.



Adobe's *Premiere* is a complex QuickTime editing package that has long ruled the roost. It is extremely powerful, but it isn't the easiest program in the world to use, and the price is hefty. Try the much cheaper *QuickEditor* instead.

You can use *QuickEditor* to produce stunning effects like cross fades and chromakeys that can give your QuickTime movies the kind of professional production values that would have required a multi-million-pound edit system just a few years ago.

use the video player style controls to find the correct frame, mark it as a start point, choose the end point in a similar way, and click the button to insert the section of clip into the movie at a start point selected in the same manner in the movie panel. You can make edits at any point, and insert sections into an existing movie.

Once you've edited the video element of your movie, *QuickEditor* has simple, effective and powerful sound control features that enable you to synchronise sound effects and music with the movie. With a video digitiser, a camcorder and *QuickEditor*, you can produce full-blown movies and promotional videos for delivery right there on your Macintosh screen, or use pre-existing movies from another source, such as the Internet.

QuickEditor is an invaluable tool for anyone using QuickTime, from the casual experimenter right through to professionals seeking to reduce their software bill. It's easily good enough to be full price commercial ware, and anyone who uses this program regularly and doesn't register it is complete pond-scum. Official. **MARCUS DYSON**

QUICKEDITOR

Price: $20. **Out:** now.
Requires: Any QuickTime-capable Mac with 4Mb of free RAM.
Contact: For more details, check out the unregistered version on this month's CD.

FEATURES 93%
This has all but the very, very high end professional features.

EASE OF USE 89%
QT editing is never simple, but it doesn't get any easier than this.

DOCUMENTATION 85%
A perfectly good electronic user guide is included with *QuickEditor*.

VALUE FOR MONEY 98%
As good as programs that cost 20 times the money.

MACFORMAT RATING 95%

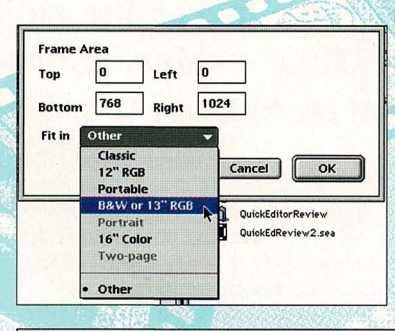
Instant Replay

If you need to capture exactly what happens on your Mac screen, and save it out as a QuickTime movie, this program is exactly what you are looking for. The price, however, might not be. There is a tendency among producers of serious Macintosh software to charge what they like for utilities that, quite frankly, are of shareware standards. This program is extremely well executed, and it only has a niche market appeal, but over £100?

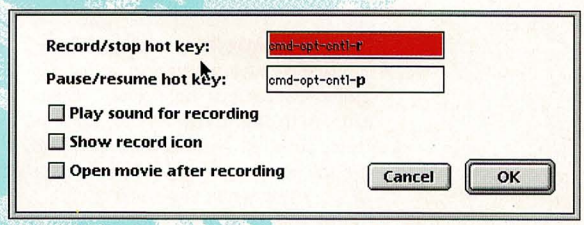
If you're producing multimedia presentations or tutorials, however, *Instant Replay* is an invaluable tool. It's simple to use, and works superbly well. As well as being able to capture menus and dialogue boxes, *Instant Replay* can capture input from virtually any external video or audio source with the correct hardware. A simple user-defined hot-key starts and pauses recording, but you have to actually switch to the *Instant Replay* program itself to stop recording and save the resulting movie, something that *CameraMan* (on page 110) gets around by automatically saving to a default file name in a user-specified location.

Instant Replay is a little more powerful than *CameraMan*, but its only real additional feature is its ability to record movies from a video input source. Indeed, the demo movie that ships with *Instant Replay* makes much of its video digitising capabilities, but then, if you have a card capable of taking a video input, in 97% of cases you probably already have video digitising software too, which means you don't need *Instant Replay* to do the job.

For a close look at *Instant Replay's* features and abilities, take a look at *InstantReplay.Mov* on this month's CD. *Instant Replay* is an excellent piece of software, but the price is ridiculous. Shareware authors, surely you can give us something like this at a much better price? **MARCUS DYSON**



Recording a whole screen as a movie can result in problems when you try to play it back... it's too big to see the QuickTime controls at the bottom. *Instant Replay* gets around this by enabling you to select an area of the screen to record.



You can start and pause recording using a pre-defined key combination, but it cannot be stopped in the same way – you have to go back to *Instant Replay*.

INSTANT REPLAY

Price: £129.25 **Out:** now.
Requires: Any QuickTime-capable Macintosh, System 7 or later, 2Mb of free RAM.
Contact: Gomark on 0171 731 7930.

FEATURES 75%
Records screen activity, tracks the cursor and digitises video.

EASE OF USE 90%
Couldn't be simpler to set up or use. No faults there...

DOCUMENTATION 80%
A well written and presented manual, but in proportion to the program's lack of features.

VALUE FOR MONEY 20%
Over £100 for something this simple? You have to be joking.

MACFORMAT RATING 50%

Continued on next page

EXCLUSIVE *SMARTSKETCH* SPECIAL OFFER
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***SmartSketch*, reviewed on page 90, is a fabulous new vector graphics package which gives you the ease of use of a bitmap paint package. It scores 89%, and it's a bargain at £54.99. You can get £5 off a copy of *SmartSketch* if you order it using this coupon.**

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MediaPaint

You can add some incredible animated special effects to your QuickTime movies. *MediaPaint* certainly isn't short on effects, but can these justify its price?

When it comes to special effects, QuickTime offers some particularly exciting possibilities. It makes it easy to apply special effects that Hollywood would have considered impossible less than 20 years ago. *MediaPaint* is, according to its PR literature, a 'desktop video painter'.

Creating any animation is just a matter of sequencing a series of pictures with slight differences, and QuickTime is no exception. To create a special effect on a QuickTime movie all you really need is to export each frame, paint on them one by one, then re-combine them into a movie. *MediaPaint* saves you this hassle by enabling you to paint on each individual frame of a movie. It also has a light table feature, so you can see what you painted in previous frames, and it uses a layers system, whereby effects painted onto a frame are not 'fixed' until the movie is saved out – non-destructive editing. *MediaPaint* also automates certain animation tasks to make it possible to produce amazing effects like lightning or laser bolts. But while it is possible to create these effects with *MediaPaint*, it is far from easy.

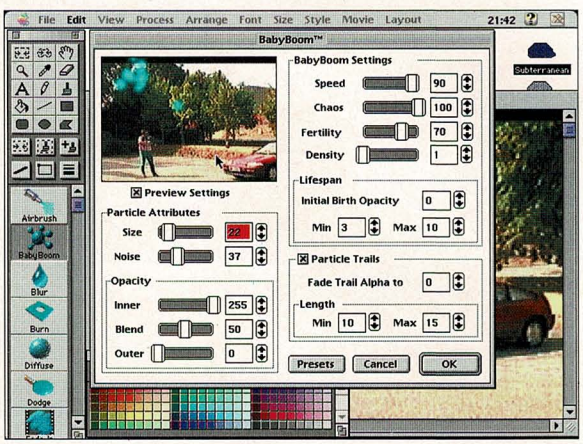
In fact, *MediaPaint* has such an uncooperative interface that it's difficult to believe it's published by the same people who gave us the superb *Vision 3D* package. The tool palettes use the typical convention of showing the selected function as if it were a depressed button, but the brush and colour palettes (even though they use a 3D style) don't do anything to show which selection has been made. Then, when you change painting colours, there is no indication as to which colour has been selected.

And the interface is nowhere near as offputting as the non-intuitive way in which the program works. With certain features, such as the animated brushes, you can define how many frames they will persist for. But then, once you try to use them, you have to copy them to each frame, which makes no sense. You should be able to click in the start frame and type in how many frames you would like the effect to persist for. Worse, after using it a few times, the review copy of *MediaPaint* wouldn't preview these special effects properly either.

Many of *MediaPaint's* painting and selection tools are inferior to those on even a budget paint package, and all this in a program costing over £500. The package also has rudimentary image processing features and accepts plug-ins. Some of the image processing features are meant to be 'tweenable', so that they will automatically vary their degree of effect over a range of frames, but in testing they didn't work to any degree of satisfaction.

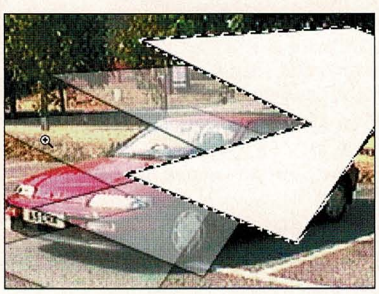
MediaPaint is a pain to use but the results can be superb – see *CheapSpace5.Mov* on the covermounted CD for a quick example. On the other hand, it can't actually do anything that you couldn't manage with a copy of the *MotionPaint* program from *Multi-Media Utilities* and a little patience... oh, go on then, a *lot* of patience. It's a superb idea that doesn't quite work in practice. On top of that, it's very memory hungry, and doesn't behave that politely when it's running low of RAM, preferring to sit there inscrutably and let you think your Mac has crashed rather than put up the clock cursor. Strata should take a long hard look at *Photoshop's* interface, and get working on *MediaPaint 2.0*. Until then, this is one package that won't come off your shelf too often, although when it does you will have a lot of fun with it.

MARCUS DYSON



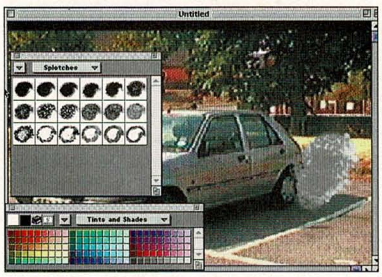
MediaPaint's special effects tools have a dazzling array of settings, which affect how the tool animates over a number of frames.

Some of *MediaPaint's* tools only work on the paint layer, others can be applied directly to the movie.



The Lightbox enables you to see the position of items on the paint layer from other frames.

MediaPaint features the now-familiar 3D palette look, but the colour palette does nothing to show you which colour is selected.



MediaPaint comes with sets of brush tools specifically designed to be used in sequence to create animated effects.

MEDIAPAINT

Price: £564. **Out:** now.
Requires: Mac II or better, 6Mb of free RAM (prefers much more), 10Mb of hard disk space, QuickTime 2.0 (included).
Contact: Gomark on 0171 731 7930.

FEATURES 60%
Some great attempts at defining what features a QuickTime paint package should offer... but not enough.

EASE OF USE 50%
Simply not easy enough to use. Some things you just can't get it to do.

DOCUMENTATION 45%
It includes a video, but the manual doesn't tell you how to use the program properly.

VALUE FOR MONEY 30%
£500? Ouch!

MACFORMAT RATING 45%

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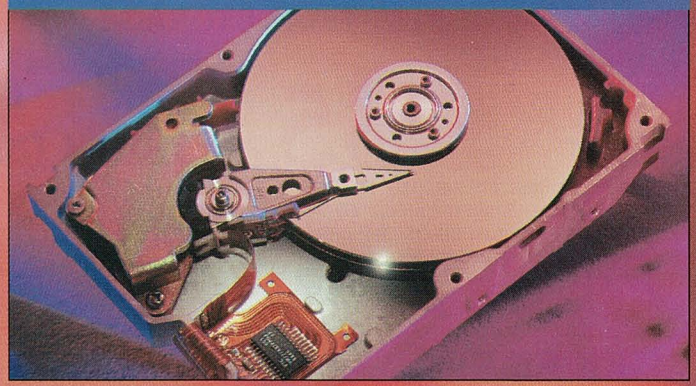

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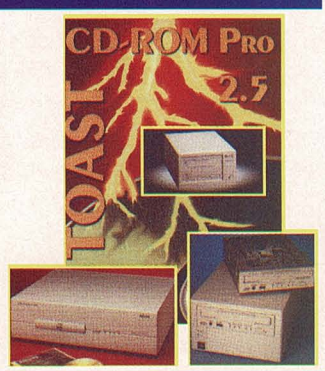

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SHAREWARE AND PD

It's Rod Lawton's turn to take his life in his hands and step out into the Infobahn to flag down a juggernaut full of shareware. May the force be with him.

'Rod?' 'Yes, Derek?' 'Would you like to do the shareware section this month?' 'There are no sex programs then, Derek?' 'No.' Well actually, Derek, you're wrong, but if you want the disks back you're going to have to send me £20 in a plain brown envelope. Haha.

Biorhythms 5.03c

PSEUDO-SCIENCE

Shareware £20

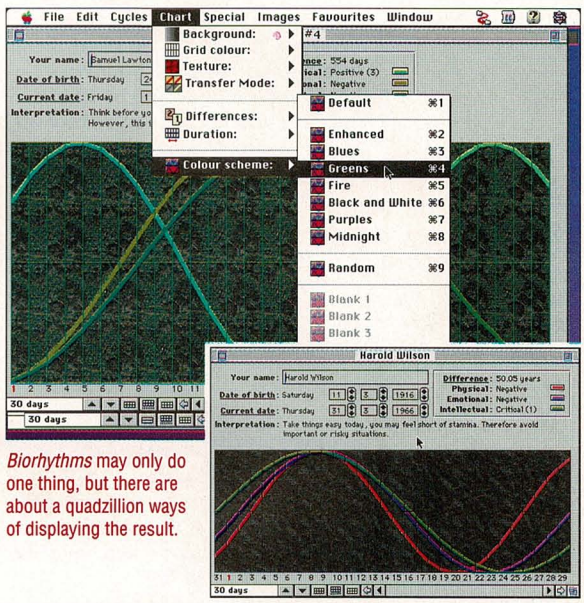
A study of domestic American air flights indicated that 80% of accidents occurred when either the pilot's or co-pilot's biorhythms were at a critical level. That's worrying.

Biorhythms are like astrology, religion, quantum physics and the chances of winning the National Lottery – you either swallow it or you don't. The theory behind it is that we are all subject to regular physical, emotional and intellectual cycles. These cycles are different lengths (23 days, 28 days and 33 days respectively) and are set in motion from the day we're born. By charting these cycles you can differentiate between the days when you should stay in bed and those when you really are able to pilot a large but ultimately rather fragile commercial aircraft.

All the shareware featured here is on our covermounted CD-ROM

When the graph is going up, you're in a positive phase, when it's going down you're in a negative phase, and when it's switching from one to the other you should definitely think about switching to autopilot. But, since your cycles have different lengths, you need a program like this to see what sort of a state you're in at any one time, and how it's going to change. The idea is that you can plan your life around it, avoiding, for example, large commercial aircraft on certain dates.

Biorhythms' author reckons it's the best biorhythm program around. For a program that basically displays graphs, it has a stunning range of display options, and can even give you a one-line summary of your current condition, what you're good at, and what you should avoid. This makes it tricky to rate. It's certainly on a par with the world's best frog-spotting accessory, or even the finest 3D coat-hanger modeller this year.



Biorhythms may only do one thing, but there are about a quadzillion ways of displaying the result.

BOOK

WRITING

Freeware

You have to be nice about freeware. It's often written by people who did something simple for their own use and thought somebody else might find it useful too. So it would be unfair to give it a roasting for not being one of the world's best pieces of programming.

Just to straighten things out, *BOOK* couldn't be called one of the world's best pieces of programming. It's a *HyperCard* stack that uses a bit of scripting – only a bit, mind – to create a template for children to write story books. The screen display is split into two facing pages. On the left is a text field where you write your story; on the right is a blank area for drawing pictures using *HyperCard's* paint tools, such as they are. You can create new pages indefinitely and they're automatically numbered for you.

It's a nice idea for kids, and the fact that the program was easy to create shouldn't detract from what it does. You'll need *HyperCard* to run it: the *HyperCard Player* will do, but if you want your books displayed in colour you need version 2.2. Standalone *HyperCard* stacks do take up far more space, but if freeware and shareware *HyperCard* authors used them they'd reach a much bigger audience. Still...

BOOK is not a professional-quality multimedia authoring kit, but it's reasonable entertainment for kids.

The program comes with many sample biorhythm charts. Here's Harold Wilson's. Not a very good choice, was it?

CatchEm

NONSENSE

$5

This is stupid. You check the ReadMe file, which tells you to 'try to catch the dancing icons'. You launch it and... most of your Desktop icons disappear, others are renamed, and the moment you try to click on your hard disk icon it leaps across the screen, laughing maniacally. Then your Wastebasket belches at you and decamps to a spot just under your Apple menu. Even

Continued on next page

CONFUSED ABOUT SHAREWARE?

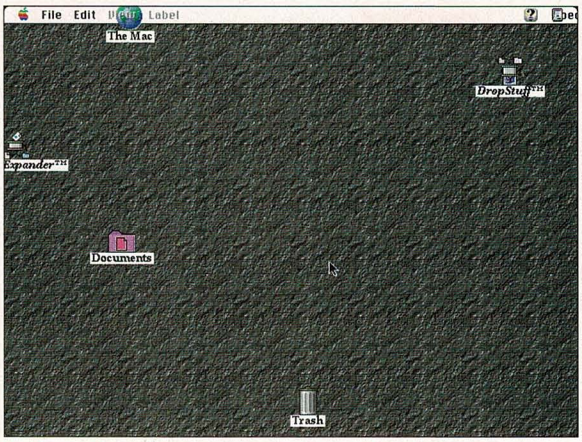
■ **Shareware** is a form of 'try before you buy' software selling and it's a great idea so long as you're honest. When you get some shareware, the documentation file accompanying it will tell you how much it costs – typically it's somewhere between US$5 and $40 – and where to send your money. If you like the software and decide to keep it, then you're morally obliged to cough up. Not only do you get the satisfaction of boasting to friends about how honest you are, but the author will often give you something in return for registering, like a printed manual, or updates when released. The most common problem is sending money abroad, but as many shareware authors now accept credit cards, it's getting easier.

■ **Freeware** means that you don't have to pay for it at all. There are many derivations such as postcardware, which means you have to send a pretty postcard to the author.

But freeware is not strictly the same as **Public Domain** (PD) because although you don't pay for freeware, the author keeps copyright and you have to follow his terms and conditions to use the program. This often means keeping all the files together and not using or selling them for profit.

ARE YOU A TREKKIE?

So you think you know a bit about *Star Trek*, do you? We'll see – this month's margin notes are questions from *Starfleet Exam*. This will sort the Kirks from the Klingons...



Very funny. Try to click on any of your icons, with *CatchEm* installed, and it rushes off screaming, belching or laughing hysterically.

your menus leap impishly across the menu bar before you can select them.

Just when you think your hard drive has been destroyed by a virus and your system has been taken over by evil electronic squatters, a red **Quit** button appears on your Desktop.

It was all a joke. No harm done, except to your entire cardiovascular system. The documentation suggests inserting this jolly little application in a friend's Startup folder. If I ever meet the programmer, I'll be inserting it somewhere quite different.

DIFFICULT
What was the maximum runtime of the polaric generator that Kim and Torres constructed in *Time and Again?*

Hypnosis

PSEUDO-SCIENCE

Freeware

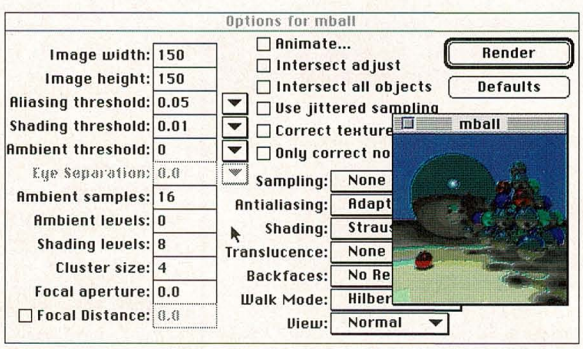
'... And when you wake up you will not remember that this is a *HyperCard* stack that might just as well have been distributed as a text file.'

If you practise the methods explained in this stack, you might manage to persuade next door's cat not to leave deposits among your rhubarb, and double-glazing canvassers that their very lives are in danger if they bother you again. But since hypnotism only works on humans, it's unlikely.

There's actually more here than instructions on how to make your friends do horrible and degrading things in public. You can also uncover the deliberations of your subconscious with nothing more than an old tap washer, a piece of string and a set of cross-hairs drawn on a sheet of paper, apparently. What you can't easily discover, though, is what compelled the author to convey these few gems of wisdom in a *HyperCard* stack. A short phone call would have been enough.

HARD
The crew of the Enterprise first set foot on a Klingon Bird of Prey in which movie?

IMPOSSIBLE
What kind of emissions from *The Cloud* would interfere with Voyager's transporter?



Just take a look at this set of rendering options you get in *MacRTrace*. At the end of it all you've got to admire their balls.

I Ching Connexion 2.1

PSEUDO-SCIENCE

Shareware $20

The *I Ching* is a closed book to me, and it's going to remain one until the programmers of this mystical masterpiece choose to include some background information on what it's all about.

I Ching uses coins, hexagrams and some complex interpretation to answer life's difficult questions by means of 'divinations'. Sticking my neck out, I guess that means you find the right way to ask the question, chuck a few coins (or something), wait for the software to do something mystical and complicated that used to have to be done by some old bloke with a beard and a pointy hat, then find the right way to interpret the answer.

If you're an *I Ching* buff, this program, which looks quite polished and serious, is one that you should definitely get hold of. If you're not, forget it, because you're going to end up none the wiser. There, I didn't need *I Ching* to divine that.

MacRTrace 1.8.4.2

GRAPHICS

Freeware

This is a serious bit of programming. *MacRTrace* can take a scene file and render it from a range of viewpoints at various output sizes (if you have enough memory). It can also create 3D animations, following paths you define around the scene, and save them as QuickTime movies. Accompanying this is slick documentation explaining the principles of raytracing and how to use the software.

Unfortunately, the demo files are as far as you'll get. *MacRTrace* is a Mac conversion of a piece of software that was designed for Unix and other programmers, and while it supports the exporting of PICT and QuickTime files, that's about its only concession to Mac file formats. It doesn't support the Mac's DXF 3D file format, but uses text-based file formats (SFF and SCN) instead, which might make sense to Unix programmers but not necessarily to those of us in the real world.

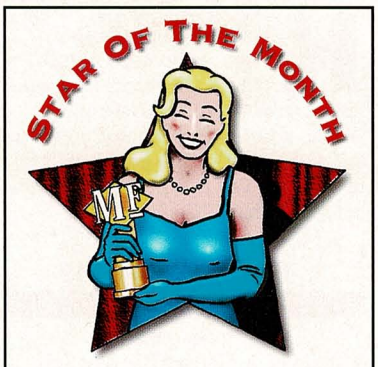
MacRTrace is a fearsome bit of programming that looks like a winner, but in reality is more of an academic exercise in understanding and cross-platform development than a 3D tool for Mac owners. Blast.

NeoIcon† Fat 0.8.5a1

UTILITY

Shareware (price to be decided)

How often do you want to edit your icons? Exactly. Most people fiddle around with their icons when they have nothing better to do. It's easy enough, after all: select the relevant



OrgaNicer

PERSONAL ORGANISER

Shareware $5

Okay, so it's another personal organiser program for your Mac, but *OrgaNicer* promises speed, flexibility, compactness and... niceness.

It enables you to create two sorts of data file: Fact Files and Calendars. A Fact File comprises a text field (where you put your facts), a key field (where you type in special keywords) and a title field. There's also a scrolling window containing an alphabetical list of all the records you've created. Click on any one of them to display it – fast. To create a new record, click on **New Item**. That's as complicated as it gets.

The Calendar works similarly.

There has to be a catch. No application could be this simple, elegant and fast. But *OrgaNicer* is, dammit.

From the table you're presented with, you click on a date to call up that day's notes and appointments in the text field below. Dates with an entry attached are highlighted in the calendar table. You can easily switch months and years and you can go straight to another day by clicking the name of the day you want in the calendar table. Getting the **Find...** dialogue to appear caused difficulties, but no doubt that will be fixed soon.

OrgaNicer isn't as sophisticated as commercial personal information managers like *Claris Organizer*, but it's easy to understand, works in only 500K of RAM, and is ultra fast. It has loads of neat features and is great value for money.

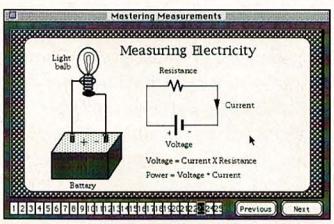
Play & Learn 2

EDUCATION

Shareware $10

You mean there was a version before this one? *Play & Learn 2* is not exactly a cutting-edge multimedia educational extravaganza. It's more of a trailing-edge single-medium educational disaster.

For a start, the 'Play' element is conspicuous by its absence. This is about as interesting as watching a shop dummies' training session. The seven standalone applications veer unsteadily between the completely obvious and the downright mystifying. The maths application invites you to perform additions without telling you that you must type in last digits and carry-over digits, rather than the finished



A simple electrical circuit consisting of a 'battary' and a light 'balb'. There isn't a spelling tutor. If there was it would be crop.

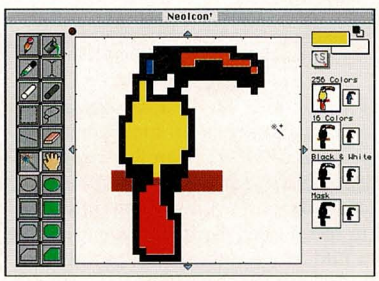
amount (some on-line help would have helped) and the time-telling application explains that the passing weeks form an unbroken sequence – when one week finishes, another begins. There are no words to describe this.

For an 'educational' package, it has one or two problematical areas. You get an on-screen calculator for working out fuel bills in one set of problems, but this calculator doesn't follow the usual calculator practice of solving preceding calculations automatically when you press another operator key. Elsewhere, I really don't think lamps contain light 'balbs', and I'm not familiar with the term 'battary'. After a while you start to resent the amount of time it took to copy this hopeless mush onto your hard disk, and you begin to wonder if, somewhere in the world, parents are trying to educate their kids with this.

file or folder, hit **[command] I** to get its info box, copy the icon out of its window, do whatever you want to it in a paint package, then paste the icon back in when you've finished.

In fact, it's so easy to do it yourself that a dedicated icon editing program is only useful for programmers or nerdy people who insist on doing things the hard way. But, as icon editors go, this one looks good. Its author claims that it's the fastest you can get, but, never having cursed my luck at the speed of my icon editor, I can only imagine the relief that will bring. Certainly, the editing and paint tools are formidable – the equal of anything you'd get in a low-end paint package.

NeoIcon isn't entirely finished yet:



It's amazing that Apple still haven't included a fully-feature icon editor like *NeoIcon* in System 7.5, isn't it? No, not really.

the lasso tool isn't enabled, and it looks like there's some instability lurking in that code somewhere, judging by the Type 1 error that kept appearing. And it can't recover all icons (unlike cutting and pasting from the Info window – ahem). But it does enable you to fiddle with Newton icons and it does set up masks automatically.

Roll on the finished version, and some documentation to explain exactly what the menu options are for and how they work.

Roulette-DM

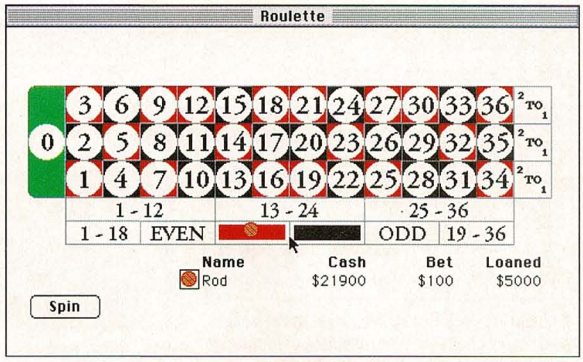
GAME

Shareware $5

It's wise to be suspicious of roulette, or any other gambling game for that matter. Whenever you play a Mac version you no doubt make heaps of money – the first time I tried this game I made over £22,000 from a £1,000 loan. Try and do the same thing at a real roulette table and within seconds you'll probably lose half your cash; within five minutes you won't even have enough for a vodka martini and a packet of pork scratchings.

At least going to a real casino might be more interesting than watching an animation of a roulette wheel, while your score adds up (or depletes) on a display marginally more interesting than an animated spreadsheet. The controls are fiddly, too – you have to double-click on a chip to change its value. And your maximum stake is a paltry £5,000, which isn't much when you're trying to claw back a debt the size of a gas executive's salary.

And what do you get at the end of



Right, £22,000, minus my £5,000 loan... that leaves me £17,000 clear after five minutes work. Playing *Roulette-DM's* a bit like running a water company.

it? You spend hours gawping at a tedious, largely unchanging display, winning loads of money that doesn't exist, and being tormented by thoughts of what you would have done with it if it did.

Starfleet Exam 31

GAME

Shareware $15

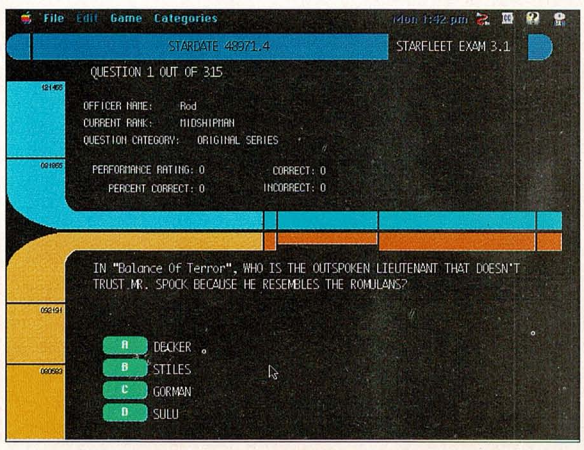
'How many tribbles did Doctor McCoy stuff, unseen, down Yeoman Rand's tunic in *The Trouble With Extras?*' Don't know. 'In *Rendezvous with Rigor Mortis*, how many Romulans were hiding in Kirk's wardrobe?' Not sure. 'How many times was *The Testcard Syndrome* screened in Venezuela (in colour) before 1984?' Haven't a clue...

I must have seen every episode of the original *Star Trek* series at least five times (like everyone else in the Western world), and I can still only get about 30% of the answers right. When the questions include *The Next Generation* and *Deep Space Nine*, not to mention the movies, I'm lost.

This is a multiple-choice quiz for real Trekkies, not just people who've seen every episode of everything a mere half-dozen times. This is for people who've spent as much time in the *Star Trek* world as the real one.

The presentation is attractively Open University, circa 1974, and you can load old games, save new scores and compare your performance both against your past efforts and those of your Trekker mates. There's also occa-

Continued on next page



This is one of the easy questions in *Star Fleet Exam 31*. Even I got this on my fourth attempt.

SOMEONE SAID THAT?

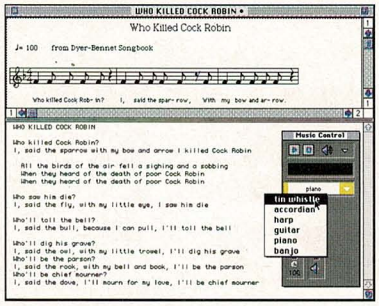
Just after the Enterprise is destroyed, who reminds Kirk that he has 'Turned death into a fighting chance'?

DON'T BE STUPID

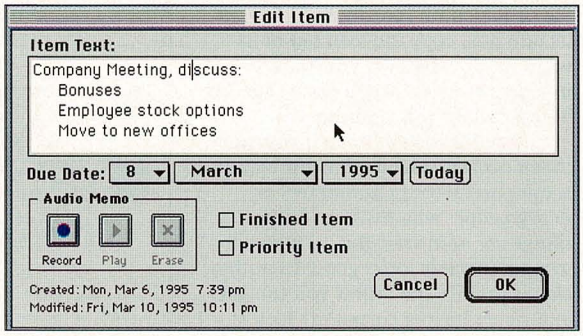
Who was the second officer on the Livingstone when Dax and Sisko served on it?

DON'T BE RUDE

Where do we find the mountains of the Antelope women?



Who did kill Cock Robin? No idea – but at least you can now hum the tune. Just one of thousands of songs collected for *The Digital Tradition*.



With *ToDo List*, tasks can consist of several lines, they can be given a specific date and you can even record a verbal message.

sional digitised speech to set the mood.

Starfleet Exam is slightly out of the league of ordinary mortals and firmly in the territory of *Star Trek* fetishism. If you really like this program, you really ought to get out more.

NO ONE KNOWS THIS

Which Federation ship was the closest to Khitomer when the Romulans attacked?

The Digital Tradition 2.0

MUSIC

Freeware

Believe it or not, this is a colossal collection of several thousand traditional folk songs. It's built up from vast quantities of research, and is being added to at the rate of around 300 songs every six months. You choose the song you want to examine from a scrolling list of titles arranged alphabetically. Several thousand? Yup – that's why there's a **Save Position** option. You double-click on a song name to see a window containing a songsheet with proper musical notation, plus the lyrics in a separate area. Many of the songs also have tunes which can be played back on a variety of instruments – piano, accordion, tin whistle, guitar, harp and banjo.

I KNOW THIS ONE

What is the underlying principle of the Sikarians' transporter technology?

This is one big piece of research – it takes up eight 800K disks, and, if you're interested in traditional music, it could turn out to be an indispensable source of reference. Otherwise, it's an interesting curiosity that should keep you occupied for 20 minutes or so. It even features a decent search facility that can help you track down all the songs about Scots parodies involving computers (true) and Welsh lumberjack laments (okay, perhaps not quite so true).

ENOUGH ALREADY?

How many people did Beverly have to leave behind on the Borg planet when she withdrew in *Descent 2*?

ToDo List

PERSONAL ORGANISER

Shareware $32.95

I must admit, I have a weakness for personal information managers, largely because I have a family, two different jobs with two different sets of contacts, and I run my own business. In fact, I need divine intervention, not a PIM. But anything that promises to help keep that little lot under control is worth a look.

ToDo List is deceptively simple. It offers a single window with a scrolling list displaying all the jobs you've noted down to be done. These can be dated or not, so you can include jobs that need doing soon and jobs that need doing on a specific date. You can also arrange for jobs that haven't been done to be carried forward, and these have a little subscript that tells you how many days overdue they are.

In case you're a technology freak, it also provides a memo recording facility, where you can attach an audible message to any job. You do need a Mac with a microphone socket (and a microphone), of course.

This is a simple but effective little program that organises your jobs about as well as any program could. It looks less attractive when you take into account the $32.95 shareware fee, and you should bear in mind that a to-do list application that isn't integrated with a contacts list and diary is somewhat limited. But for what it sets out to accomplish, *ToDo List* is efficient, simple and powerful, as it should be, given its limited aims and its fairly hefty registration fee.

WorldClock Lite 2.05

UTILITY

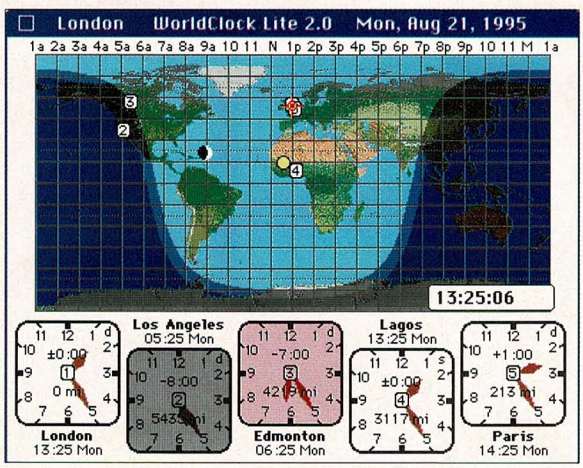
Shareware $15

I've heard of a Desktop clock, but this is ridiculous. *WorldClock Lite* displays everything you could possibly want to know about the time absolutely anywhere in the world.

The backdrop is a map of the world with those areas where it's currently night shaded in blue. The map gradually scrolls from right to left as night approaches. If you switch to the Sundial view you can see the shadows lengthening and then disappearing with the onset of twilight. If you're too busy to admire this display, you can display five clocks simultaneously instead, each set to the time zone of any one of the hundreds of cities stored.

For astronomers and other scientists, there are both sun and moon calendars that enable you to predict sunrise and sunset times for months and years to come, if you should so desire. The moon calendar also tracks the phases of the moon, so this is an excellent program if you're a Patrick Moore type (it'd be even better if it came with a suit designer).

Only a relatively small cross-section of Mac owners will find this valuable, but if you do have a use for it, it's excellent. Frankly, it's hard to imagine a program like this being done any better. And this is only the Lite version – the full version is a commercial package which enables you to change the size of the display and add your own locations, all for another $10. **MF**



Check the time in five different cities simultaneously with *WorldClock Lite 2.05* – the clock faces even show you whether it's dark there or not.

WHERE TO FIND THEM

We often get calls from readers who want to know how to get hold of some of the shareware reviewed in these pages. Well, here are some of the methods:

1. Buy the CD-ROM edition of MACFORMAT: all the shareware we review in each issue is on there in a separate folder. There's also loads of other shareware on the CD-ROM every month, sorted into separate categories for you.

2. Write to a shareware dealer; there are several who advertise in the back of MACFORMAT. The dealer should have the program you're after, especially if he subscribes to our CD-ROM edition!

3. Use the Internet, if you have access. One of the best sources around is Imperial College at **src.doc.ic.ac.uk**. Use ftp to connect (login: anonymous; password: your e-mail address) and cd to computing/systems/mac. Personally, I use the umich directory, but sumex is fine as well.

4. Local user groups often have libraries of shareware, so see if you have one near you. There are some listed in our Reader Ads section (have a look on page 138).

Finally, wherever you get your shareware, beware of viruses. At the moment, *Disinfectant 3.6* (on MACFORMAT 26's cover disk and CD-ROM) is the best and cheapest way of staying safe.

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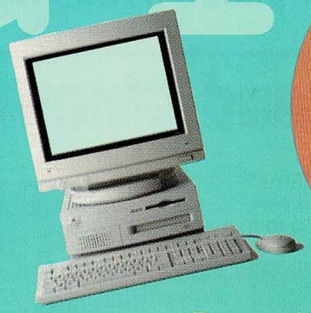

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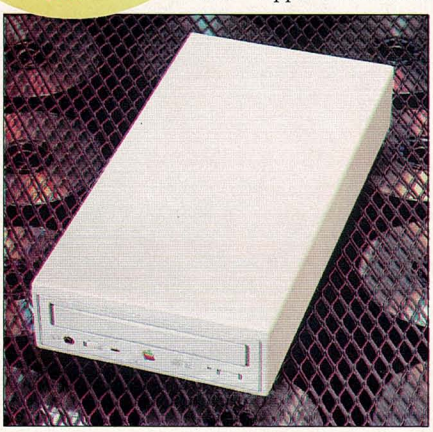

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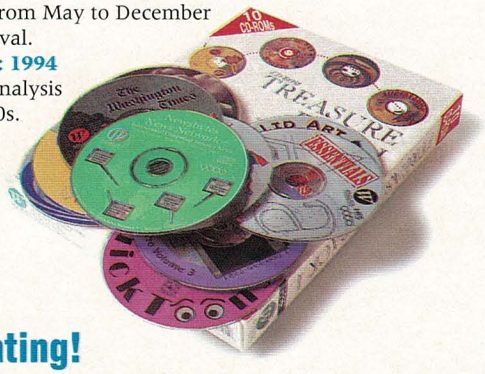

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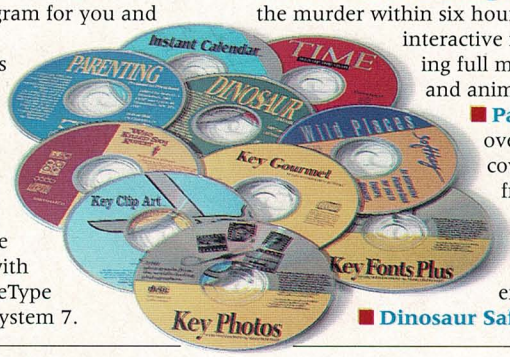

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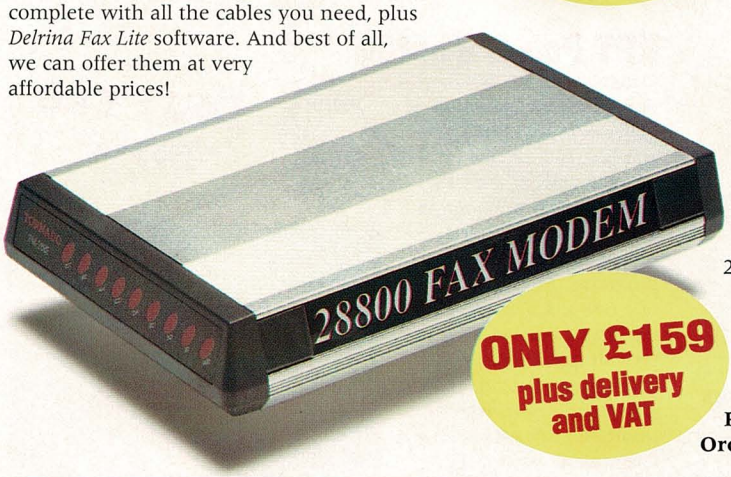

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This is the second edition of this indispensable guide to everything you need to know about using the Net. The book comes complete with *The Internet Starter Kit* disk, which is packed with useful software. Inside you'll find practical guidance on how to get the most from the Net without going bankrupt, and where to look for all the latest information.

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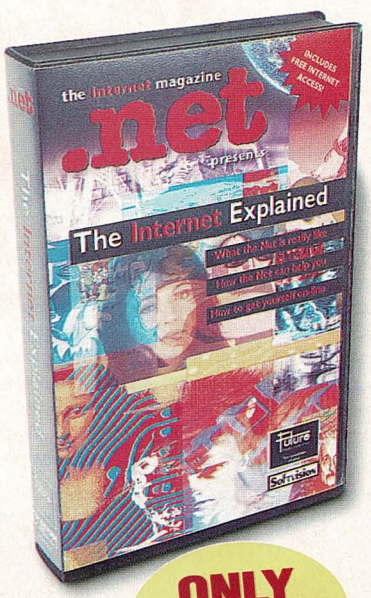

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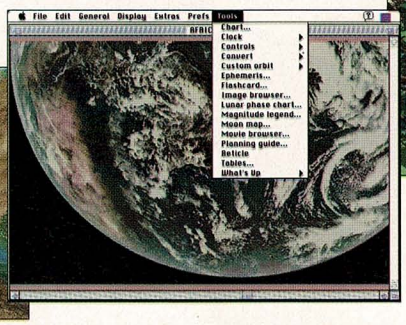
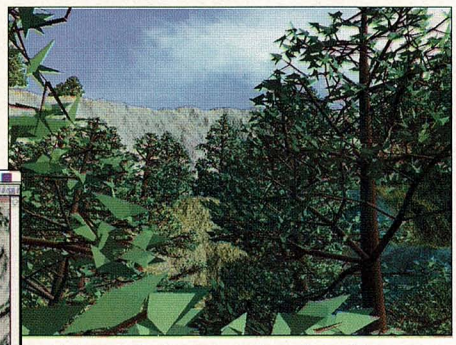
Vistapro is a virtual landscaping package and MACFORMAT Classic to boot! We gave it the thumbs up in issue 15, where it scored a well-deserved 90%. It enables you to create your own three-dimensional landscapes, for use as backgrounds or simply for the sheer joy of it. *Vistapro* requires: a colour Mac running System 7, with at least 4Mb of free RAM.

Together with *Vistapro*, we're able to offer you a *free* copy of the multi-media title *Distant Suns*. An essential guide for the desktop astronomer, it displays over 255,000 stars and 2,000 galaxies and normally retails at £39.95.





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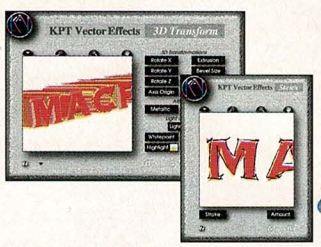

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(MACFORMAT 28: 89%)

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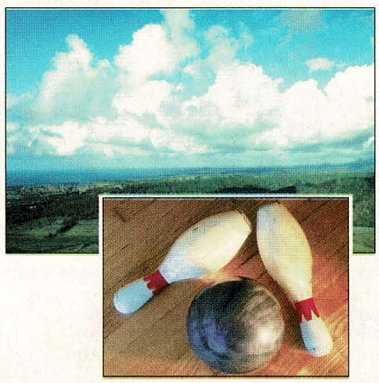

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(MACFORMAT 20: 91%)

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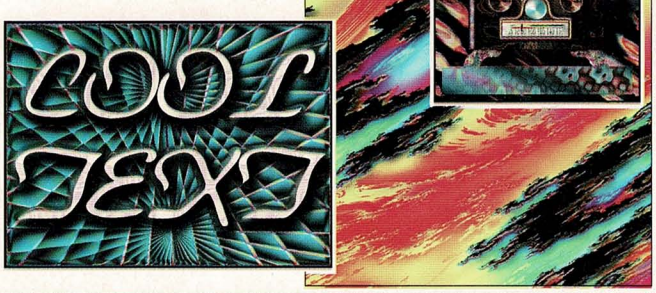

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ISSUE 18

November 1994

■ **On the disks:** Internet software bundle; troubleshooting utilities

■ **On the CD-ROM:** *Claris-Works 2.1; Rebel Assault* and *Sensory Overload* demos; 200Mb of utilities

■ **Inside:** how to beat those startup problems; plus *Norton Utilities 3* vs *MacTools 3;* and a review of *Theme Park*

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ISSUE 19

December 1994

■ **On the disk:** hot action with *Wolfenstein 3D; Kid Pix*

■ **On the CD-ROM:** sorry, CD-ROM edition is no longer available

■ **Inside:** the lowdown on accelerators; the 20 top Mac games; SCSI trouble-shooting; *IntelliTalk;* OCR user guide plus Internet books reviewed

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ISSUE 20

January 1995

■ **On the disk:** build worlds with *Fractal 1.2; Maniac 2.1.1; RAMDisk+ 3.23*

■ **On the CD-ROM:** sorry, CD-ROM edition is no longer available

■ **Inside:** virtual reality special: *KPT Bryce* and *Star Trek Tech Manual; Word 6* vs *Nisus Writer;* how to write games for your Mac

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ISSUE 21

February 1995

■ **On the disks:** *VideoShop 2.0;* plus 3Mb of games and utilities; *Trojka; WordSmith*

■ **On the CD-ROM:** demos of *Premiere 4.0, Marathon, Ghosts,* and *Star Trek: TNG, Technical Manual*

■ **Inside:** video editing on Macs: how to do it; budget games; and what to buy if you run out of disk space

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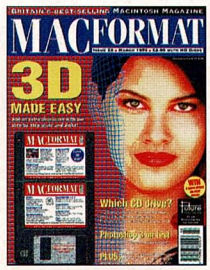

ISSUE 22

March 1995

■ **On the disks:** *Infini-D* demo; *MacConcept; Blobbo*

■ **On the CD-ROM:** 3D spectacular; *The Crystal Rainforest; VideoFusion*

■ **Inside:** how to create 3D images on your Mac; *Photoshop 3.0* reviewed; font problems solved; CD-ROM drives tested; and the most realistic flight sim ever

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ISSUE 23

April 1995

■ **On the disk:** *Oh-no! More Lemmings; StuffIt Lite 3.5*

■ **On the CD-ROM:** comics collection; *PAWS; Sources of Faith; Marathon*

■ **Inside:** comics on the Mac – interviews, reviews and how-to's; *FreeHand* vs *Illustrator;* colour printers; reviews of *XRes* and the best Mac game ever – *Marathon*

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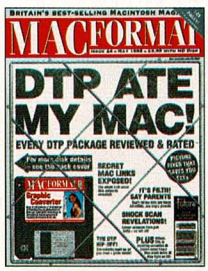

ISSUE 24

May 1995

■ **On the disk:** *Graphic Converter; MacCheckers!*

■ **On the CD-ROM:** demos of five top DTP programs, including *QuarkXPress* and *PageMaker,* plus *Photoshop 3.0* and *ClarisWorks 3.0*

■ **Inside:** every Mac DTP package reviewed and rated; colour scanners; networks explained; *PhotoFix* reviewed

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ISSUE 25

June 1995

■ **On the disk:** *Knot 1; MacSnails; Glypha 3*

■ **On the CD-ROM:** get started with MIDI; plus Demos of *Alone in the Dark; Wing Commander; Loony Labyrinth, A-10 Attack.*

■ **Inside:** all you need to know about PowerMacs, fax-modems tested; plus some 'Cosmic' CD-ROMs

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ISSUE 26

July 1995

■ **On the disk:** animation programs, *Disinfectant 3.6*

■ **On the CD-ROM:** demos of *ProMotion, Amazing Animation, Elastic Reality, Morph* and *Circus,* plus *3D Dinosaur Adventure.*

■ **Inside:** animation on the Mac; 15- and 17-inch monitors reviewed; comms made easy with *TeleFinder*

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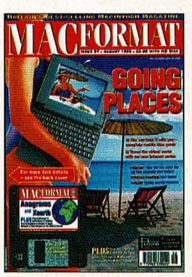

ISSUE 27

August 1995

■ **On the disk:** *Anagrams, Xearth* and *BattleTanks*

■ **On the CD-ROM:** over 50 *Photoshop* filters, over 100 *Quark* XTensions, Internet utilities, *QuickDraw GX 1.1.2,* software for portables.

■ **Inside:** the complete guide to portable Macs; Internet basics series; plus portable printers reviewed.

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ISSUE 28

September 1995

■ **On the disk:** *Catch The Buzz, Lobster, DragThing.*

■ **On the CD-ROM:** *Color It!, Dark Forces, Circle Elements* and *WorldWrite* demos, plus over 75 high-res clip photos.

■ **Inside:** image editing; what those Extensions and Control Panels *do;* graphics tablets, PaperPort scanner and *Dark Forces* reviewed.

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ISSUE 29

October 1995

■ **On the disk:** clip art, games and utilities, fonts.

■ **On the CD-ROM:** clip art, 55 high res photos, Bomb Busters, *Discworld* demo.

■ **Inside:** eye-catching black-and-white DTP; clip art collections, *KPT Vector Effects,* language learning software and multimedia encyclopaedias reviewed.

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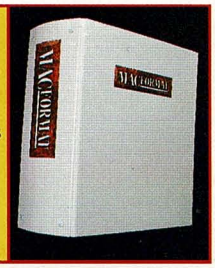

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Alone in the Dark

Ugly zombies, a haunted house and devil worship – spooky stuff. Can a three-year-old game with gorgeous graphics but a dodgy control system still impress?

In the beginning was the game. The game was an unadorned, simple thing. It didn't sound terribly exciting and it didn't look terribly exciting, but it was fun. It cost ten pounds and you spent several weekends trying to beat it. Then came the game as concept.

The game as concept is an adorned, beautiful thing. It sounds exciting, looks exciting and makes you irresistible to members of the opposite sex. It costs around £50 and you play it three times. Once to find out what it's like, once to check it was really that bad, and once to show your friends how bad it is.

Alone in the Dark, which was programmed three years ago, is game as concept to some extent. It's one of those curious titles that you feel you've got to have. It was groundbreaking in its time, and even today remains a bit of a classic, despite its sometimes incredibly frustrating faults.

The plot? You, private detective Edward Carnby or Emily Hartwood, are investigating the death of Jeremy Hartwood, who lived in a mansion called Derceto. Previous to his death he had been carrying out translations and experiments, which appear to have unleashed strange forces upon the house. It's an adventure game that offers arcade-style fight sequences, movie-style graphics and clever camera angles.

Test of time

Alone in the Dark's polygon characters retain their individual look, and the constantly changing camera angles add to the atmosphere. However, the innovative graphics make actually playing this game an ordeal – one minute you're happily wandering across a room away from the camera, the next the view changes and you're walking into the camera. You're at the mercy of which way the camera chooses to swing, which makes fighting an aggressive zombie frustratingly difficult for the first few times, until you start to get the hang of things.

To exacerbate this problem, *Alone in the Dark* adopts the control system used on the PC: it uses arrow keys. Unfortunately, on a standard Mac keyboard the arrow keys are all in a row, which means that it's nigh on impossible to move about quickly. Because the programmers haven't included a key definition screen either, you're stuck with their alarmingly unintuitive choices. If you have an extended keyboard, however, you're laughing.

Alone in the Dark has a steep learning curve, although after a while things start to make much more sense. Don't expect to be eased into this game – give it a couple of minutes and you'll already have been attacked by a strange bug-eyed monster and a pink-haired zombie. If your reactions aren't good, you'll die, repeatedly, and you'd be well advised to use the Save Game function regularly. On the other hand, it's a comprehensive, long game, and if you're looking for tough opposition, you'll find it here.

And *Alone in the Dark* has lots of other plus points. The number of weapons it offers, and innovative ways of using them, means that fighting is never boring. The puzzles are always entertaining, if sometimes annoyingly obscure. Then there's the variety and weirdness of the monsters, who creep up on you in perfect timing with the music – your heart will occasionally miss a beat. And there's the atmosphere – a combination of classic graphics, an enormous house full of hidden rooms, clever camera angles and sinister music. The game as concept might not be perfect, but it offers a few unsettling moments and lots to think about for a while.

JOSEF MORRELL

Now what sort of a devil worshipper would live in a house like this? Take a peek through the keyhole.

As Edward turns to leave the room, he's surprised by a member of East 17 who got lost en route to the toilet.

Forget Edward Scissorhands, meet Edward Pointyhands. How does he manage to pull the trigger on his gun?

Funnily enough, all of the characters in the game (including this scary monster) were designed by Pablo Picasso.

ALONE IN THE DARK

Price: £44.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: Mac II or better, 2Mb of RAM, System 7 or later, 256-colour monitor, 7Mb of hard disk space.
Contact: Infogrames on 0171 738 8199.

GRAPHICS 75%
It would have been 90%, but those great looking graphics really don't help the gameplay along at all.

SOUND 90%
Excellent. Hoots, whistles, creaking floor boards, crisp gun shots and groaning zombies.

GAMEPLAY 75%
Great to look at, and the adventure part is fun, but the control system makes the fight sequences frustrating.

MACFORMAT RATING 75%

Alone in the Dark 2

Despite death threats, Edward Carnby and/or Emily Hartwood returns to the fray. Venture into Hell's Kitchen and sample the gory menu.

Can you guess who and what One Eyed Jack is? Governor of the Bank of England? Arsenal's manager? Evening shift manager in the Hemel Hempstead McDonalds? Leader of the opposition? The presenter of *Pets Win Prizes?* Or, more likely, the leader of a gang of bootleggers, around which the plot of *AITD2* is based.

One Eyed Jack has kidnapped a young girl and is holding her hostage in a large mansion called Hell's Kitchen. You, as Edward or Emily, the pointy-handed detective, must rescue the young girl. By using your intelligence, good looks, guile, and large gun, your task is to force your way into the mansion, find the girl and then get the hell out as fast as possible.

If you've already read the review on the opposite page, you'll be pleased to hear that this follow-up improves on some of the original's failing points. The movement keys are more logical (they're on the numerical keypad) and, more importantly, you can actually change them to your preference – an option that's been included in games since *Hungry Horace* came out on the Sinclair Spectrum in 1985. Better late than never, eh?

Unfortunately, the graphics still impede the gameplay. While everything's quicker (accelerated for the Power-Mac, even) and prettier, you're still faced with the problem of the viewpoint suddenly changing. One minute you're happily kicking a thug in the face, the next the camera angle flips round and you're inflicting grievous bodily harm on a privet hedge.

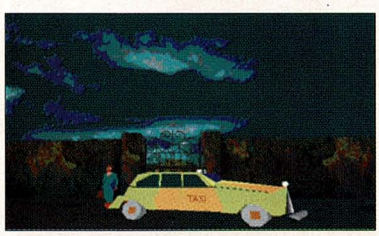
The learning curve is still as severe as in the original game. Right at the start of the game you're faced with a henchman who's armed with a machine gun. Fortunately, he's unconscious to start off with, so you can shoot him as he starts to come round. But the rest of the gang aren't so easily dispatched. Having sprinted up the front path to the mansion, you're faced with four of the blighters, all with machine guns and all with unerringly deadly aim.

Having been mown down repeatedly during this opening sequence, you may manage to make it to a statue, which can be pushed aside to reveal a garden maze. Of course this is heaving with henchmen too. The dying's not even accurate – after being shot a good 20 times by a machine gun, Edward says 'I feel awful... really awful.' You should be feeling dead, mate.

The sound, however, is excellent, with a moody soundtrack that's best listened to over a pair of headphones. The samples are also every bit as crisp and effective as in the first game.

So, the control key problem has been sorted out, the sound is just as good, the plot's excellent and the graphics look great. But the gameplay's just as tough, the camera angles still make moving about and fighting frustrating, the game is initially so difficult that you may well be put off for good, you can't skip some of the cut scenes and to top it all, Edward still has pointy hands that couldn't hold a cup of tea, let alone pull a trigger. Having been killed several thousand times, you can get frustrated, but if you're immune to being wound up in such a manner, then by all means buy this game. You'll have many happy hours dying repeatedly, jumping out of your skin occasionally, and searching out the answers to lots of annoyingly elusive puzzles.

ANDY HUTCHINSON



Edward Carnby cunningly sneaks into the heavily guarded mansion by taking a taxi to the gate.

Instead of fighting it out, Edward sprints for it and miraculously makes it as far as the front door.

To solve puzzles, you need to call up this inventory screen and use the objects that lie scattered about the gameworld.

Edward stared his opponent in the eyes and landed a devastating punch on his assailant's nose. At which point the man pulled out a large gun and shot him in the ribs. Edward died, once again. Hope you saved the game...

Meanwhile, in the gardens, Edward was dying again, this time (somewhat bizarrely) at the hands of the Pet Shop Boys.

ALONE IN THE DARK 2

Price: £44.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: Mac II or higher (optimised for Power Macintosh), 2Mb of RAM, System 7 or later, 256-colour, 12-inch monitor, 15Mb of hard disk space.
Contact: Infogrames on 0171 738 8199.

GRAPHICS 75%
Yes, they do look excellent, but they come close to screwing up the entire game and are therefore rather pointless.

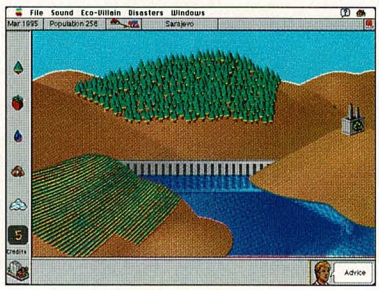
SOUND 90%
Crisp, precise spot effects and a moody soundtrack. The most accessed sample is Carnby's death throes.

GAMEPLAY 80%
It scores better than the original because you can, at least, change the movement keys.

MACFORMAT RATING 78%

SimTown

The sacred cow that is *SimCity 2000* is being milked, but will the result turn sour? Kids get the chance to play social planner with this new 'software toy'.



This screen enables you to gauge how your natural resources are bearing up. If your town's productive, you get credits with which to replenish your resources. If your town's a pig, you don't.

Today is a good day in Sarajevo. The inhabitants are walking around saying things like, 'I'm feelin' good all over,' and, 'Things couldn't be better.' Life is peaceful, life is fun. Everyone's having a great time eating burgers and pizzas, and frolicking with their pet penguins.

Unfortunately, the Sarajevo we're talking about is not the one that has been held under siege by a man called Ratko for the past few years. No, this Sarajevo exists only on a Mac and was created using *SimTown*, the kiddie version of *SimCity 2000*.

Aimed at the 8 to 12 year old age group, *SimTown* is part of a range from Maxis called Software Toys For Kids, but don't let this marketing hyperbole fool you – *SimTown* is, in fact, a game.

A cute but useless touch is the ability to name some of the people living in your *SimTown* and design their characteristics.

The whole idea of *SimTown* is... you guessed it, to build a town. Start playing and the program sets you up with an empty grid map (which you see from an isometric 3D viewing angle) and a range of point-and-click tools with which to create your own settlement. You can plonk houses down wherever you like, lay roads faster than John Gummer, and erect bowling alleys on every corner. If you fancy some petty revenge against the educational establishment, you can make schools and bulldoze them over. Or, to be even more cruel to fetishistic headmasters, you can surround all schools with games arcades, pizza parlours and icecream stalls.

Double-click on buildings at the highest level of magnification and you can see what's going on inside them. A neat diversion, but it doesn't add much to the game overall.

The great thing *SimTown* adopts from *SimCity 2000* is its freeform approach. Your Sarajevo can be however you want it to be – apartment blocks everywhere, ranch houses in rows or grass huts scattered in parkland. The big departure from *SimCity*, and what brings *SimTown* down to a more manageable level for kids, is the fact that you don't have to worry about the macroscopic aspect of the infrastructure. You handle your town on a household-by-household, business-by-business basis. Forget the electricity supply, the underground pipes and the tax policy – this one's a little less serious than all that.

Nonetheless, it has its challenges. As Sarajevo grows, you have to keep an eye on the natural resources. The amount of building you are able to do is limited by the number of trees and volume of water available. Skies get polluted, recycling is needed to deplete the garbage dumps and crops must be grown. Furthermore, the number of homes must be balanced with the availability of employment in local businesses and so on.

After a few hours' play it all gets very dull. To extend the challenge, situations have been included where you have to manage problem towns out of extreme situations (no trees, no water, no crops, that sort of thing). Despite nice big graphics, cute little characters inhabiting the towns and a choice of three quirky tunes, the game gets to be a straightforward and dull affair. It may have a longer life with younger kids, but it doesn't really have anything to hook you in. There's none of the addictiveness of *SimCity 2000* and the excitement will dwindle quickly for older young people. Still, it was nice to think there could be peace in Sarajevo...

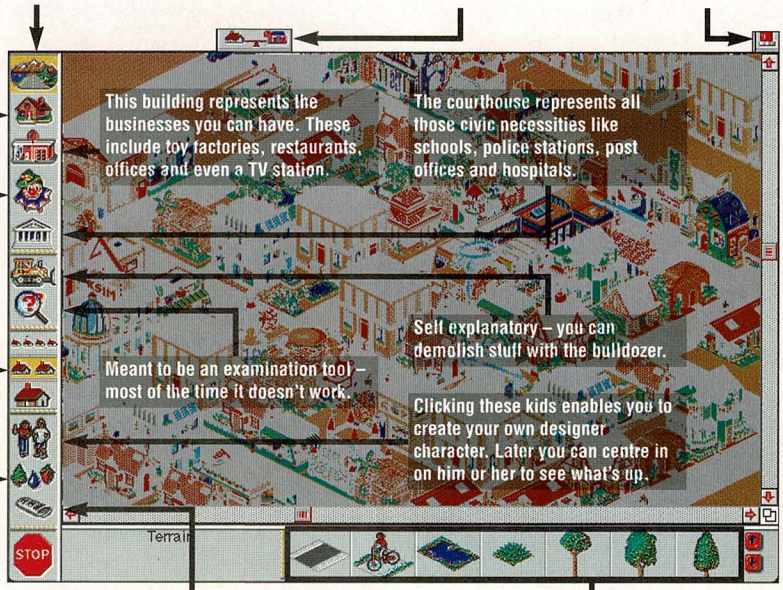
GARRICK WEBSTER

Houses and homes are available here, ranging from grass huts and portahomes to cottages, apartment blocks, haunted houses and space-age homes.

Terrain tools. Clicking this gives you access to roads, paths, parks, ponds, sandpits, trees, bushes and statues.

The town's population has to be balanced with the number of businesses and schools supporting the community.

This flashes during an emergency such as a fire or flood.


This building represents the businesses you can have. These include toy factories, restaurants, offices and even a TV station.
The courthouse represents all those civic necessities like schools, police stations, post offices and hospitals.
Self explanatory – you can demolish stuff with the bulldozer.
Meant to be an examination tool – most of the time it doesn't work.
Clicking these kids enables you to create your own designer character. Later you can centre in on him or her to see what's up.
Terrain
STOP

SimTown gives you seven 'fun' things to choose from. Among them are arcades, a bowling alley and a movie theatre.

Use these to select how close you want to zoom in on your town.

From here you go to the resources screen to see how your trees, crops, water supply, air quality and so on are holding up.

Clicking on the newspaper gives you the main stories. Good for identifying problems.

Select a tool from the left hand column, then choose from a range of objects to put in the town.

SIMTOWN

Price: £39.99. **Out:** now.
Age range: 8 to 12
Requires: LCII running at 25MHz or better, 4Mb of RAM (8Mb recommended), System 6.0.7 or later, 13-inch colour monitor, CD-ROM drive.
Contact: Maxis on 0171 490 2333.

GRAPHICS 82%
Colourful and cute, lots of variety. Sometimes a bit too simple.

SOUND 61%
One of the three tunes is good. Few effects and poor atmosphere.

GAMEPLAY 73%
Starts well but gets slow and tedious. Easy, even for our reviewer.

MACFORMAT RATING 74%

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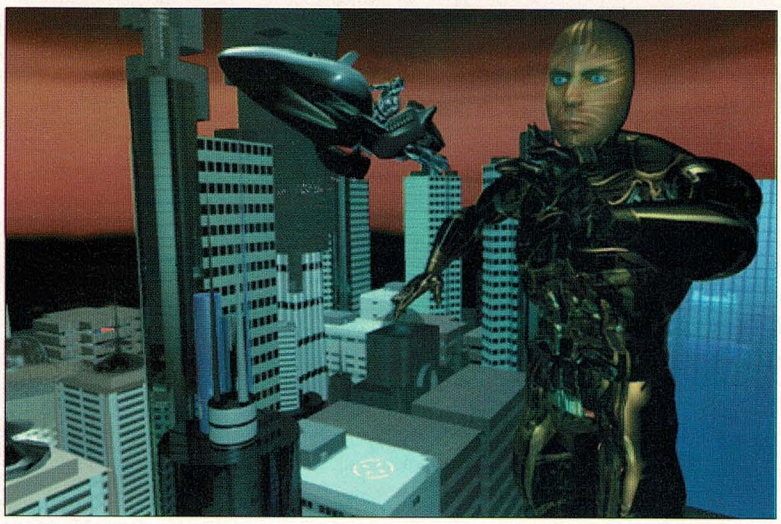
The Lawnmower Man & Cyberwar

Mess with a gardener's brain and before you know it, there's a psychopath taking over cyberspace. Marcus Hawkins attempts to save the day.



Cyberjobe was created after Virtual Space Industries treated good ol' ordinary Jobe with Project Five Formula. This caused his dark side to surface, ending up with him becoming a prisoner in Virtual Reality.

The Lawnmower Man film had one of the cheapest endings ever slapped onto the conclusion of a big budget film; it was yet another example of how not to do a Stephen King story (even the author distanced himself from the project); and the game of the film received fairly mixed reviews when it hit the Mac. But now SCi have seen fit to release a boxed set of both *The Lawnmower Man* and its sequel *Cyberwar* for the Mac.

The limited edition pack incorporates *The Lawnmower Man* disc and the full three CDs' worth of *Cyberwar*, plus an audio disc of the *Cyberwar* tracks – all for the price of a single game. But, the interactive movie crowd (or 'widescreen interactive video gameplay', as it's joyously termed) is renowned for failing to offer enough actual gameplay for your dosh. Is this game any different?

The blurb on the packaging suggests that the games are stunners to look at, with airy terms like, 'Stunning interactive raytraced 3D graphic sequences' and '360-degree cinematic panning', but what about the games' playability or longevity?

MAKING TRACKS

Steve Hillage provided the music for the films of *The Lawnmower Man* and *Cyberwar*. Hence his tunes are on the audio CD. Hillage and his synthesiser-playing partner Miquette Giraudy have previously been involved with techno group The Orb and have done the soundtracks for several feature films.

Film versus game

In the film, an enterprising doctor (played by Pierce Brosnan) experiments on one of his neighbours, a lawnmower man, using virtual reality and various drugs. The upshot is that the lawnmower man becomes a pulse of energy, and is sucked into cyberspace, where he takes control of all the computers in the world. Where the film leaves off, the game begins. You are the doctor, and you must defeat your adversary, Cyberjobe.

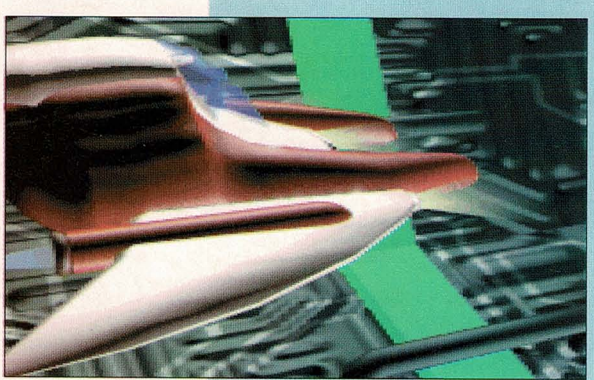
Atmospherically metallic, the graphics recapture the film, effectively depicting cyberspace as you might well imagine it to be. The film's plot is explained in the manual, and while SCi have included QuickTime excerpts of the film in the game, the QuickTime is the usual poor quality, and the excerpts neither fit into the gameplay nor explain the plot.

Sub-games

The Lawnmower Man and *Cyberwar* take very similar approaches when it comes to translating the film to gameplay. In each game you find yourself locked in the mutant hedge-trimmer's computer world, where it's your job to rescue your trapped friends and solve the villain Cyberjobe's challenges (which take the form of sub-games). Achieve all this, and you will put an end to Cyberjobe's virtual escapades.

Each CD represents a different sec-

CYBERJOBE'S CHALLENGES



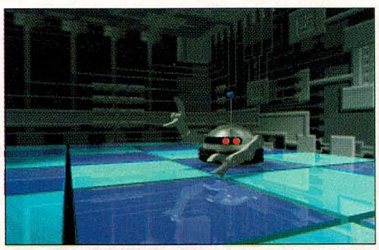
Cyber Boogie: in *The Lawnmower Man* you're told exactly which direction to turn.

There are various challenges in *The Lawnmower Man* and *Cyberwar:* win the sub-games and you win the game itself. Here are just a few representatives of the different genres of game.

- **Circuit Citie** is a timing-led challenge where you have to choose the right direction for a MonoBike as it speeds along a snaking monorail.
- **Into The Void** is reminiscent of the sadly defunct television gameshow *The Adventure Game.* You must cross the Vortex Bridge without stepping on the same tile as the invisible Dr Timms. Ring any bells?
- There is an unfortunate amount of duplication in the sub-games. An example of this is **Breaking Through,** as it's known in *The Lawnmower Man.* You, as the suave but stubbly Dr Lawrence Angelo, face Father McKeen (Jobe's evil landlord) from behind an invisible wall. You're both armed with cannons and fire consecutively, trying to find the hole in the wall that your shell can pass through, by controlling the elevation of the barrel. In *Cyberwar* there's a game entitled **Projectile Ranges** that offers almost exactly the same challenge: find the gap in the wall and destroy Father McKeen.
- Similarly, the first challenge you encounter in *Lawnmower Man* is **Ledge of Darkness.** You run along a corridor, jumping from pillar to pillar, leaping over obstacles and sliding past beefed-up enemies. There's an oh-so familiar sub-game on the third disc of *Cyberwar,* called **Catwalk.** You must get to the end of the catwalk, springing between pillars, jumping mines and gaps, and ducking Jobe's henchmen.
- As for the tunnel-based flying game **Cyber Boogie** (clearly influenced by the film), this appears on every game CD in the pack – although it has been refined somewhat in *Cyberwar.*

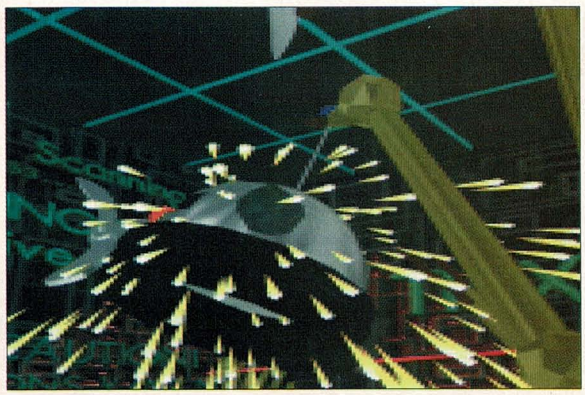
The projectile ranges make an appearance in both games. One of the more enjoyable challenges.

The first time I saw your face... You are Pierce Brosnan, the good doctor, locked in Cyberjobe's world and trying to rescue your friends.



Cyberwar certainly looks more polished than *The Lawnmower Man*. The playability's improved too.

Getting around in *Cyberwar* is made easy with the help of these data screens.

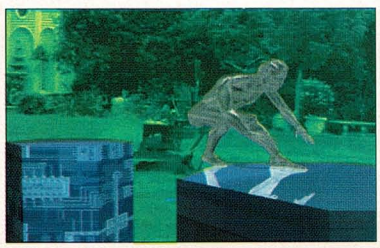


Robot Control *(Cyberwar)* is rather similar to Access Denied *(Lawnmower Man)*. Annoyingly so.

tion of the cyber world, and each game features ten different sub-games. These range from logic problems that you must solve quickly to get past certain doors, to reflex tests and shooting and flying stages. Unfortunately, once you've experienced both games, you'll realise that there are too many similarities between the two. *Cyberwar* is a huge improvement on the original in terms of looks, presentation and length, but some of the sub-games found in *The Lawnmower Man* have been more or less duplicated for inclusion in its sequel. To all intents and purposes, *Cyberwar* could have been turned into a data disc (or three data discs) for the original game, rather than a lavish sequel.

Frustrating

Both games offer lots of different challenges in an attempt to incorporate various game styles, but while this is a great idea on paper, it's weak in practice. There's never enough to sink your teeth into – no sooner do you begin to get into one of the challenges in Cyberjobe's domain, than it's over. Either you've successfully completed it, or you're dead.



Some of the games rely too much on timing. Make sure you jump when the Mac tells you to.

This is particularly frustrating when it comes to those scenes that rely on timing. They tend to be a bit too close to those ubiquitous 'classics' *Dragon's Lair* and *Space Ace* (which scored 44% and 36% respectively in MACFORMAT 26). One wrong move, one key pressed too early or too late and it's a leap, a crash or a plummet to your death, without so much as an ounce of pleasure along the way. This does not make for an enjoyable gameplay experience.

This double pack looks like good value for money when you see it on the shop shelf, but start playing the games and you soon discover how unrewarding and unplayable they really are. Anorak-equipped *Lawnmower Man* fans will no doubt be turned on by the chance to get hold of this limited edition pack, but fans of real gameplay will be forced to look elsewhere for their enjoyment. **MF**

Don't do it, Jobe! Ignore the good Doctor's advances and get out and trim those lawns.

LAWNMOWER MAN/CYBERWAR

Price: £49.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: Quadra or better, 4Mb of RAM, 13-inch colour monitor, CD-ROM drive.
Contact: Sales Curve Interactive on 0171 585 3308.

GRAPHICS 79%
Both games are presented slickly, and both recapture the atmosphere of the film reasonably faithfully.

SOUND 84%
A game music fan's dream come true – with audio CD to boot.

GAMEPLAY 30%
Some good sub-games, an incredible number of unnecessarily bad ones. The duplication doesn't help either.

MACFORMAT RATING 50%

INDIGO POWER

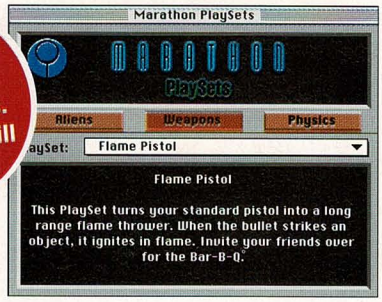
The *Cyberwar* development team used Silicon Graphics' IRIS Indigo² computers to give *Cyberwar* its stylish look. Currently the most powerful desktop graphics processor on the market, the Indigo² houses Silicon Graphics' Extreme Graphics subsystem, which enables 630,000 polygons per second to be manipulated.

Old Bernie here hangs around with a very big gun in the mutation storage section of *Cyberwar*.

Marathon CD

Are the new improved versions of old games really worth the discs they're written on?

All the ratings are for the CD enhancements. *Marathon* is still a classic.


Marathon PlaySets
MARATHON
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Flame Pistol
Flame Pistol
This PlaySet turns your standard pistol into a long range flame thrower. When the bullet strikes an object, it ignites in flame. Invite your friends over for the Bar-B-Q.

You don't get extra levels in the CD version of *Marathon*, but you do get a serious armoury.

MARATHON 2
Like all best selling items, the sequel is inevitable. *Marathon 2* will be hitting the streets soon, and although largely the same, there are new weapons and aliens.

Marathon was a groundbreaker when it appeared six months ago. A fast, action packed and violent game, it seemed as out of place on the Mac as a relational database on a ZX Spectrum. It got rave reviews everywhere, including a massive 94% in MACFORMAT 23.

The CD-ROM version promises more game for the same price. So, if you've resisted the temptation to buy *Marathon* so far, could these extras tip the balance? And if you've already bought the floppy version and played it to death, should you upgrade?

The first thing you get is *Marathon (1.2)*, the latest version, which contains a few bug fixes and a few changes in levels where people, especially beginners, got stuck. But there are no new levels and nothing hugely exciting.

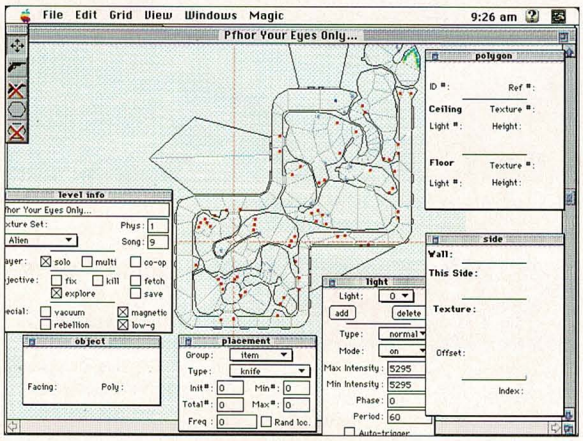
The main extra is a folder of shareware goodies. *Marathon* was designed to be easily customisable – if you're at all techie, you can alter aliens and weapons and design new levels. There are hundreds of such levels on the Net, but none of these are on the CD. Presumably Bungie wanted to keep the game 'pure'. But you can have extras such as anti-gravity boots, missile-firing hand guns, beefier explosions, and meaner aliens.

However, you risk unbalancing the delicately poised gameplay. Super duper weapons make killing too easy, anti-gravity boots bypass half the puzzles, and improved sound effects hold your interest for two minutes.

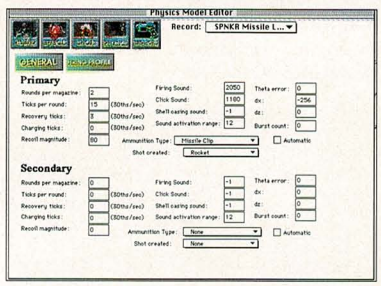
If you've already finished the game and want an excuse to replay it, these extras are fine. But if you've never played the game before, as soon as you get stuck you'll use a cheat, rather than work out the solution, and so ruin what is a superb game.

If you bought the floppy version, spend the price of this CD on *Dark Forces*. If you're going to buy *Marathon* for the first time, buy the floppy version – it's better.

DEREK SMITH



The CD-ROM version offers utilities to create your own maps, but be warned, it's not a simple job.



With the Physics Model Editor you can change most aspects of the game. Seemed fine as it was.

MARATHON

Price: £49.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: LCIII or better, 4.5Mb of free RAM, System 6.0.5 or later, 256-colour monitor, 25Mb of free hard disk space, single-speed CD-ROM drive.
Contact: Softline on 0181 401 1234.

MACFORMAT RATING 35%

Star Trek 25th Anniversary CD

See how *Star Trek* fares when it boldly enters the realm of CD enhancement.

NEXT GENERATION
If you prefer the new *Star Trek*, you may be interested in the *Star Trek Interactive Technical Manual*, reviewed in issue 20 of MACFORMAT.

Like the cast of the original TV series, this game is starting to look its age. To extend its life, Interplay have added sound – a whole CD full, in fact.

Gameplay is the classic point and click affair. If you want Mr Spock to examine a Tribble, you first click on the Use icon, then on pointy ears himself, then on the Tribble. He walks over and says something smug, much in the style of *The Secret of Monkey Island* and the more recent *Discworld*.

This method of exploring can be really tedious – every time you enter a new location you have to examine every object separately to find out what it is. This repetition is compounded by the fact that after looking at an object, you then need to get Spock to use his Tricorder, and Bones to use his medical Tricorder.

Worse still are the graphics. Now a game doesn't *need* great graphics to be enjoyable, but in this case you can easily spend an hour looking for a missing clue only to discover that you've overlooked a dismembered hand – usually not an easy thing to do, but when it's a blob of five dark brown pixels on a background of light brown pixels, it's infuriatingly easy.

In the game's favour is its subject matter. Surely no TV series has evoked the worldwide adoration of so many dedicated, if slightly strange, viewers. To maintain the TV allusions, the game is broken into separate 'episodes', complete with the banter on the bridge at the end of each.

Before you let loose with your phaser, do remember that the aliens are sometimes friendly. Thought and care are needed.

In the floppy version, any speech simply appears as text on screen; in this version, every word is spoken out loud. Even better, Interplay enlisted William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy and Deforest Kelly themselves to record their characters' voices. The other characters are played by sound-a-likes, although they have precious few lines. This greatly improves the game's

SimCity CD

One of the best-selling games ever has been given the multimedia treatment, but is it any better for it?

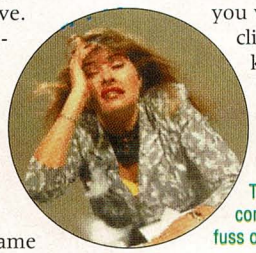
This is not *SimCity 2000*. That was the updated and improved 3D version, which we gave 95% in MACFORMAT 9. Instead, the developers have chosen to squeeze the last drop of life out of the classic original 2D game.

You start with a bare piece of land, occupied only by the odd forest and river. With a lump sum of cash, you design and build a village, which with luck begins to be populated by good taxpaying people. This revenue enables you to expand your domain to a town, and finally a burgeoning city.

The game challenges your ability to design and plan the city. Where should you put the factories? What level of policing is needed? Should you invest in roads or railways? How big should the red light district be? For a fairly simple game, it's surprisingly accurate and immensely addictive. Although *Marathon* is sensational to play, once you have completed it, you'll probably barely touch it again, whereas even after years of playing *SimCity* you're still addicted.

So what is the CD enhancement? The original game offered eight predefined scenarios which you could play instead of building your own city. Well, don't get excited, there are still just eight on this CD. However, whereas in the floppy version you got the occasional text message on screen, telling you that there are lots of traffic jams, now you get a rather poor quality QuickTime movie of the construction boss telling you, well, there are a lot of traffic jams. Multimedia for its own sake?

In total there are over 100 movies, warning you of problems and suggesting possible solutions – but nothing that you can't find in the manual. The first time you see a movie can be interesting, particularly the manic female newsreader who appears to be on drugs, but the second time is boring, and the third annoying. But don't worry – you can turn the movies off. Oh, and you'll also want to turn off that infuriating voice that informs you what button you just clicked on (like you don't know). Now, you have a great game. Hmm... rather like the floppy version really. **DEREK SMITH**



The newsreader has entered a competition for overacting. All this fuss over an earthquake.

You might have thought a nuclear reactor would be better and cheaper than coal, but if it blows up you're left with a radioactive city...

The fire chief is upset about a lack of resources. But they had a new ladder only last year.

SIMCITY

Price: £34.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: any colour Mac, 2.5Mb of free RAM, System 7 or later, double-speed CD-ROM drive.
Contact: Interplay on 01235 821666.

MACFORMAT RATING 55%

To maintain complete believability (not to mention tradition), the security guard in red is always killed ten minutes after beaming down to the planet.

All the messages are read out by actors (including William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy and Deforest Kelly) adding atmosphere, drama and funny Scottish accents to the game.

atmosphere. Previously you had to imagine that the blue blob on the left was Spock, but when it's actually his voice speaking, the illusion holds.

Sound is the only addition to the game. There are no extra episodes, so if you bought the floppy version there is not enough reason to upgrade. If you're looking to buy an adventure game, it looks old compared to the slick graphics of *Discworld*, but the suspense of waiting for Scotty to tell you that 'She canna take no more' keeps you glued to the screen. **DEREK SMITH**

STAR TREK

Price: £39.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: any colour Mac, 3Mb of free RAM, System 7 or later, 13Mb of hard disk space, any CD-ROM drive.
Contact: Interplay on 01235 821666.

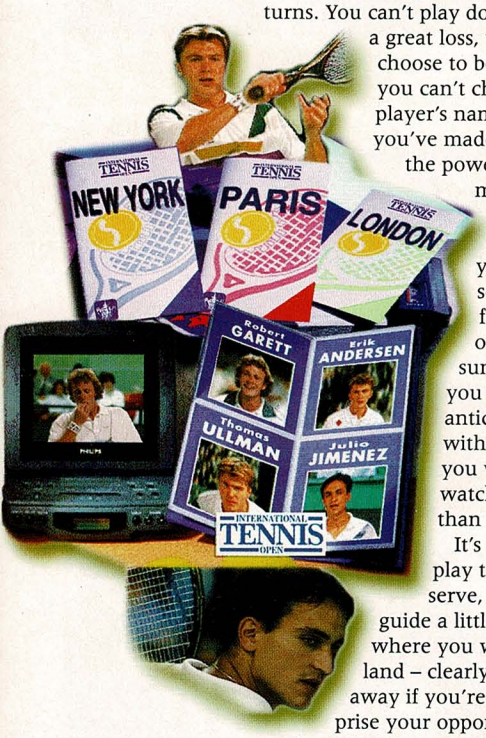
MACFORMAT RATING 79%

International Tennis Open

It's tennis, but on your Mac. Will it 'serve' you well? Is it going to be a 'smash' 'hit'? Are you likely to be 'court' 'out' by it? Or should you just 'lob' it in the bin?

The Mac isn't bursting with tennis games, which gives *International Tennis Open* an immediate edge. You are Victor Player, and you can play a singles match against either one of four computer opponents or a friend, who's given the name of Robert Garett.

The options screen (which is accompanied by a helpful voice saying, 'Choose one of these options') is disappointingly sparse. You can enter a tournament, or practise serves and returns. You can't play doubles, which is a great loss, you can't choose to be female, and you can't change your player's name. Once you've made your choice, the power of multimedia is brought to bear and you're shown some video footage of your opponent, presumably to fill you with awe and anticipation. As with all video clips, you won't want to watch each more than once.

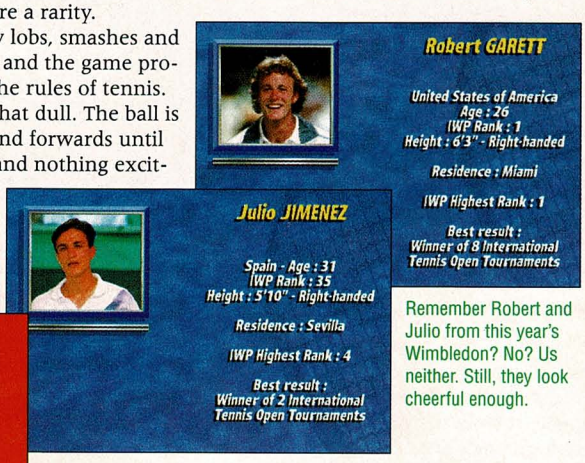


It's then time to play the match. To serve, you simply guide a little spot to where you want the ball to land – clearly a bit of a giveaway if you're hoping to surprise your opponent. The same applies when he's serving to you, meaning that aces are a rarity.

You can then play lobs, smashes and various other shots, and the game proceeds according to the rules of tennis. The result is somewhat dull. The ball is bashed backwards and forwards until someone misses it, and nothing exciting ever happens in between. No one makes a desperate dash across the court to reach a carefully placed shot down the line; instead, everyone moves around at a fixed speed, in a curiously crab-like manner. No one ever dives towards the ball and just manages to chip it over the net. In fact, no one even bothers to stretch, which is incredibly frustrating – if the ball's just out of reach, your player apathetically lets it fly past. Matches are terribly samey, and to avoid getting bored you have to keep turning up the difficulty level so the game at least remains challenging.

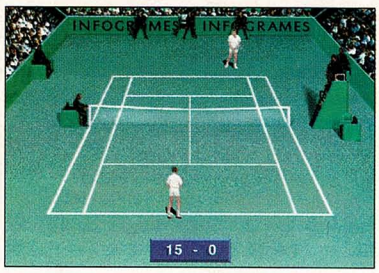
Meanwhile, the umpire reads out the score (in an appropriate accent, depending on whether you're in America, Britain or France) and a commentary is provided by George Eddy of Canal Plus (who, oddly, has an American accent – you think of commentators as being English). 'That second service is just not going in,' chuckles George as you miss your first two services of the match. 'He was ready and waiting for that one,' he notes, clearly unaware there was a large cross indicating where the ball was about to be served to. 'And the question is, what shape is Victor Player in?' Or, indeed, who *is* Victor Player?

The beginning of *International Tennis Open's* made-up tournament. You start in the quarter finals, for some reason, and hope for the best.

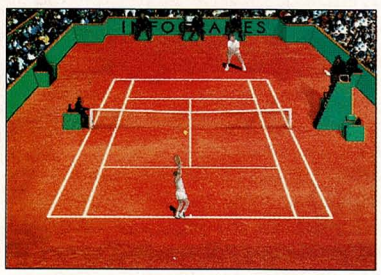

Robert GARETT
United States of America
Age : 26
IWP Rank : 1
Height : 6'3" - Right-handed
Residence : Miami
IWP Highest Rank : 1
Best result :
Winner of 8 International Tennis Open Tournaments
Julio JIMENEZ
Spain - Age : 31
IWP Rank : 35
Height : 5'10" - Right-handed
Residence : Sevilla
IWP Highest Rank : 4
Best result :
Winner of 2 International Tennis Open Tournaments

Remember Robert and Julio from this year's Wimbledon? No? Us neither. Still, they look cheerful enough.

On the Infogrames tennis court, the grass is always green. Unlike the rest of Britain...



'So, now what?' 'I think you're meant to hit it back at me.' 'Really? Okay. Here it comes.'



When playing on clay courts, it is important to make sure it hasn't been raining beforehand.

And, 'There's no answer to a volley like that,' after you've just lost a rally that lasted for about five minutes, having missed the last shot deliberately because it was getting ridiculous.

International Tennis Open is a decent representation of a tennis game, but it's far from perfect. Every move is carefully planned, detracting from the excitement; you can't throw yourself at shots, like you might in a real tennis match; and you can't even play a doubles match. But it works, and it *is* tennis on the Mac.

JONATHAN DAVIES

INTERNATIONAL TENNIS OPEN

Price: £39.99. **Out:** now.
Requires: Mac II or better, System 7 or later, 256-colour monitor. CD version: 2.3Mb of RAM, CD-ROM drive. Floppy version: 3.4Mb of RAM, 12Mb of hard disk space.
Contact: Infogrames on 0171 738 8199.

GRAPHICS 50%
Nothing special during the actual game.

SOUND 82%
Effective umpiring, irritating commentary, and good sound effects.

GAMEPLAY 66%
Workmanlike, but tends to become repetitive after a while.

MACFORMAT RATING 70%

Hell: A Cyberpunk Thriller

Demons are flooding into Manhattan through a portal that leads directly in from hell. What can you do to stop the fiendish flow? And should you bother?

Describing Dennis Hopper as Mr Beautiful may be pushing the extremes of the imagination somewhat, but that's what *Hell* is all about. It's set 100 years from now, and the New York that many people know, and some love, is not as it should be...

The city has developed a direct dimensional port to the fiery depths of hell, which is oozing denizens of various nefarious persuasions into America's largest urban area. These beasts are dragging the innocent (and the less so – they're not choosy) into the void.

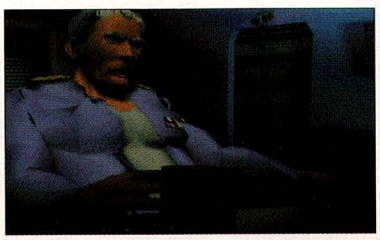
You play one of two Artificial Reality Containment officers – sort of freelance police employed by the government to ensure people are not getting up to no good with high technology. There's corruption within the government, however, and someone has set you up. You have to point and click your way through the best part of New York, trying to work out why someone's decided to have you assassinated, who's behind it all, and what, exactly, the link is between your government and the demonic portal.

Hell is an adventure game, largely conversation based. During these little talks you attempt to extract clues and hints from contacts, friends, fellow agents and adversaries throughout the city. You must also collect items from key locations to help you combat the increasing number of demons making excursions into your realm, and solve any puzzles you encounter.

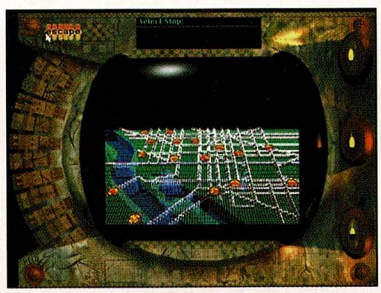
The rendered graphics are exemplary. When you speak to another character, small windows appear, which show you or your opposite in high-resolution animated detail, and the various location backdrops are suitably dark and austere. The characters look like real people rather than animated sprites, because real people's faces have been used as models for the characters in the game.

Which brings us back, via a somewhat convoluted path, to Dennis Hopper, who stars in this fantastical outing, along with numerous other famous faces.

Your character. Unless you decide to play the female lead instead of the male, that is.



It's a hard life 'scrubbing' out agents who work for you, but hey, some aged colonel's got to do it.



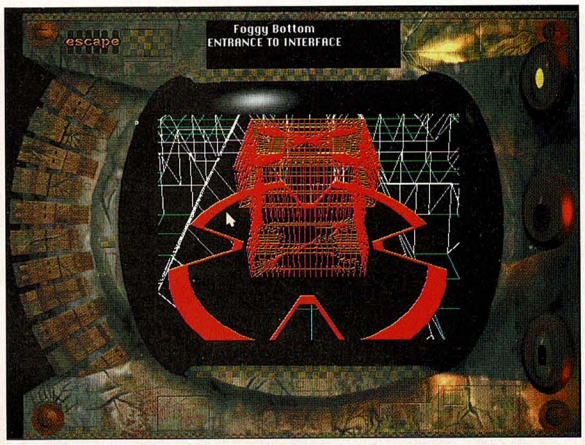
The tube map for New York is every bit as confusing as our own for London, only it's 3D.

Hopper speaks the words of one of the antagonists – Mr Beautiful – and there's also a rendered 3D model of his head, plonked on top of the character he plays, complete with texture-mapped features. It looks more or less like the man himself, but with horns. Avid media spotters may also identify the voice of Solene Solux, the President, as belonging to Grace Jones.

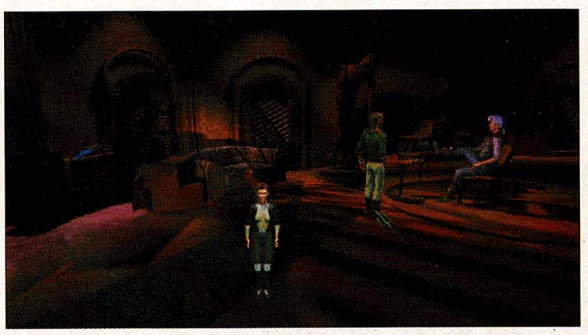
The impressive graphics *Hell* boasts are all well and good, but there is a price to pay. The movement of the characters through their environments is slow and awkward, as is the control system, which crawls at best. It's a case of too much graphical detail being handled by a slow programming system, and the situation doesn't improve even when you run the game on high-performance Mac systems.

Meanwhile, the voices of the rich and famous fail to give the dreadful script any credence. The writers were obviously so desperate to give the game a cyberpunk slant that they have fallen into the barbed wire trap of cliché after painful cliché. Phrases like 'I'll surf the underground net and see what I can dig up' abound with a frequency that betrays a complete lack of imagination on the part of the writers.

Hell is a case of an involving plot that's let down by a lumbering control system, inadequate scripting and over-indulgence in the graphical department (which helps it to look polished, but ultimately hampers the game's playability). It would have been a cracker, had the coding been up to handling the amount of graphics in here, and had the script been fresher, but as it stands, *Hell* splashes A-grade special effects throughout a B-movie quality game. **PAUL PETTENGALE**



You don't want to go here. Well, you have to, or you won't get very far though the adventure, but that doesn't make it a particularly nice place to go.



Why lead characters stand to attention when inactive is beyond us. Still, your friend Dante seems to be quite relaxed. Size 8, look.

HELL

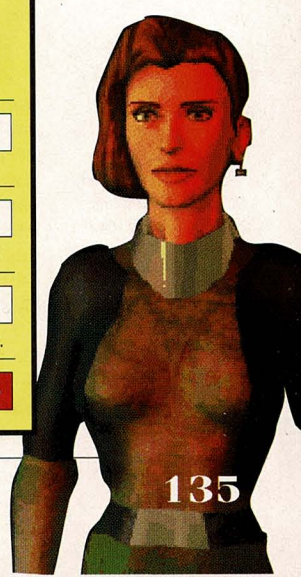
Price: £40. **Out:** now.
Requires: LCII or higher, 8Mb of RAM, System 7 or later, 13-inch, 256-colour monitor, CD-ROM drive.
Contact: Gametek on 01753 553445.

GRAPHICS 88%
Fantastic rendered visuals are fine, but they slow everything way down.

SOUND 70%
Features the voices of famous actors but, sadly, no music.

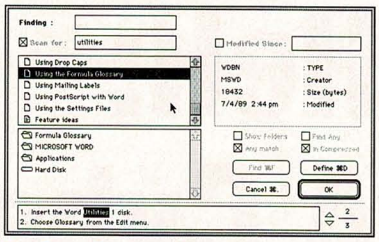
GAMEPLAY 55%
Involving plot, but it's let down by a clumsy interface and a dreadful script.

MACFORMAT RATING 63%



Quick'n'Easy

The Mac has long been famous for its simple and intuitive system of folders and files. But could it be made even better by this time-saving utility?



Now Super Boomerang has a great text search function that can even locate strings in compressed files and displays repeat occurrences.

APOLLO

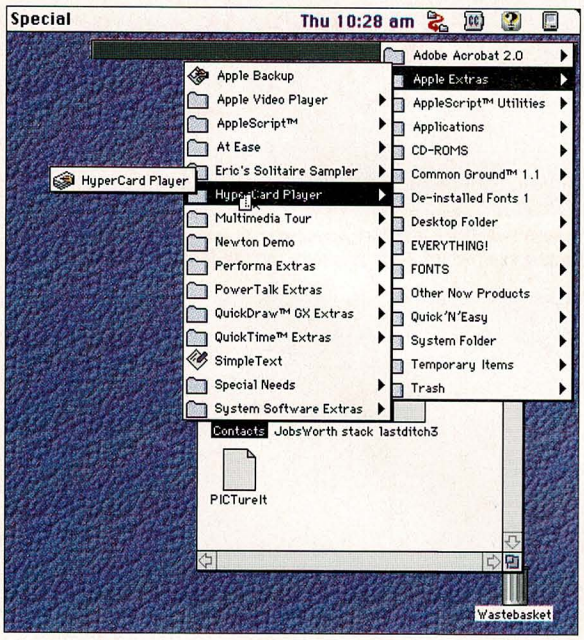
Apollo (shareware, $30) is an alternative to *Now FolderMenus*, with some real power – including pop-up menus anywhere on your Finder Desktop!

The Mac's operating system is already about as friendly as an operating system can possibly get – isn't it? With the enhancements built into System 7.5, it's hard to imagine any further improvements, especially if you're a seasoned Mac user who already knows your machine inside out. So any utility that promises to be 'The Essential Macintosh Companion' had better be good.

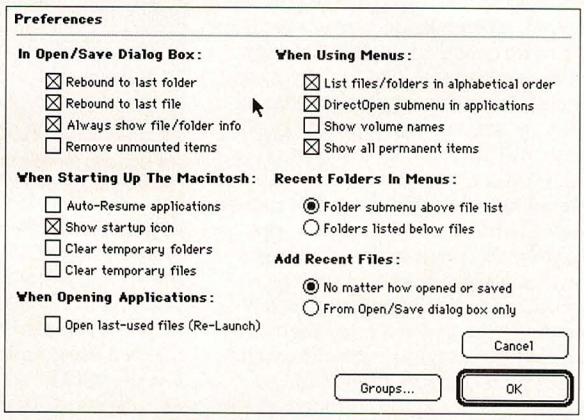
Quick'n'Easy is a cut-down version of *Now Utilities* (reviewed in MACFORMAT 19), an established collection of ten utilities designed to make your Mac life easier than ever. *Quick'n'Easy* contains three of the most useful programs from the *Now Utilities* set: *Now FolderMenus*, *Now Super Boomerang* and *Now WYSIWYG Menus*. All three are Control Panel extensions which you can customise as much as you want.

Now FolderMenus makes it considerably easier to locate and move files buried several folders deep in your hard disk. Folders with contents have a small downward-pointing arrow; when you click on these and hold the mouse button down, a pop-up menu of the contents appears. If these include other folders, you can drag the cursor over these to pop up their contents too. Not only that, but you can drag an item onto a folder, hold it there until the sub-menu appears and drag it to the required folder without having to open up lots of folder windows the usual way.

This is an excellent idea that works well, but you can only open folders five levels deep. The fact that the



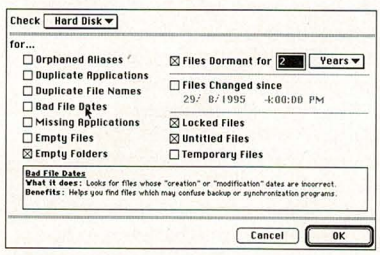
With *Now FolderMenus* you can drag a file through multiple layers of folders to a new location or the application you want to open it with – all without having to open a single folder window.



Now Super Boomerang offers a bewildering array of controls over the way your Mac and its applications handle files – and they're very useful controls.

Disk Cleaner

Is your hard disk full of rubbish? How would you know? Why not spring-clean (in autumn) with *Disk Cleaner?*



Disk Cleaner can search for various file types and the main window displays context-sensitive help.

THE CHEAP OPTIONS

DisKeeper (freeware) is harder to get to grips with than *Disk Cleaner*, but does a similar job. You can also try the shareware programs *Prefs Cleaner* and *File Buddy*, which can be found in the Bomb Busting folder on MACFORMAT 29's Cover CD.

You might clear out your hard drive now and again, but probably not until it's bursting at the seams. When it comes to binning documents and applications, it's up to you which to keep and which to delete – there's no way of doing it automatically. But your hard drive also contains obsolete Preferences files, disused aliases, duplicated files and applications, and other junk. It's stuff like this that *Disk Cleaner* can help you clear up.

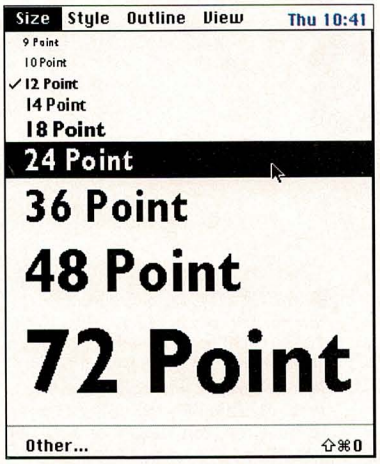
First, you set up *Disk Cleaner* to scan for specific types of file. The choice can be as wide as you like, depending on whether you know what you're looking for. So if you know you have a lot of duplicate files, you can speed up the process by just searching for these.

When *Disk Cleaner* has finished its scan, you can access a report window. This displays all the files/applications that meet the search criteria with an outline form, so if you're searching for duplicate filenames, it displays the filename with an arrow next to it and the number of occurrences. Click once on the arrow to see the full pathnames of the files, then click on them individually to see their **Get Info** dialogue boxes and delete or relocate them.

So far so good. *Disk Cleaner* carries out its searches reasonably fast – in testing it scanned a 500Mb hard drive in about a minute, but scanning for some items can take longer. You can also consign disk scanning to the background while you use other programs.

Although *Disk Cleaner* is good at picking up old Pref documents, you may find it just as easy to open your Prefs folder and do it manually. And while some duplicate filenames might be an accident, others may be deliberate. But then, you don't want duplicate applications (*Disk Cleaner* finds older versions too, not just duplicates of a single version), because you can't be sure which one will launch when you double-click on a document.

Empty and untitled files and folders



With *Now WYSIWYG Menus*, your Font, Size and Style menus can all have a WYSIWYG display.

excellent shareware program *Apollo* (which does much the same thing) has the same limitation may indicate some deep-seated technical problem; nevertheless, you can always open a folder window halfway down the hierarchy and start again.

Now Super Boomerang keeps a record of recently opened documents and folders in the Apple menu (which System 7.5 does for you anyway) and in your applications' **Open** dialogues. That can be useful, but not as useful as the other options in the **Open** and **Save** dialogues, which enable you to find files by searching for specific filenames or even files containing specified text, create new folders, check the free space on mounted volumes and more. Excellent.

Now WYSIWYG Menus is useful if you regularly work with different fonts. A few applications (like *ClarisWorks)* display fonts in a WYSIWYG format in their font menus, but this utility extends the principle to all applications – and the Size and Style menus. Even more usefully, it groups your fonts according to family, and you then access the members of the family via a sub-menu. This is useful for DTP users who have to cope with font lists that can take a week (well, seconds, anyway) to scroll through.

Quick'n'Easy is a trio of very useful System utilities that improve on an interface that's admittedly pretty good already. Highly recommended... unless you think you need more utilities, in which case the complete *Now Utilities* package includes these programs and another seven (including an autosave utility, a backup utility and more) for £105, plus a decent printed manual for you to peruse. **Rod Lawton**

QUICK'N'EASY

Price: £29.38. **Out:** now.
Requires: any Mac, 1Mb of free RAM, System 7 or later, CD-ROM drive.
Contact: Now Software on 01525 237100.

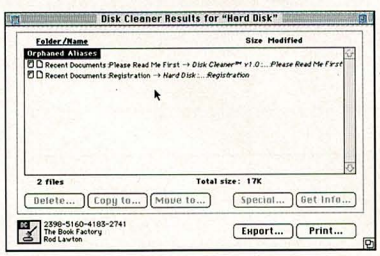
Features 85%
Now FolderMenus has minor limitations, but the other two are excellent.

Ease of use 82%
Mostly, there's nothing you need to know, but some of the *Now SuperBoomerang* options are complicated.

Documentation 65%
The manual is on CD, but you need to install *Acrobat* (provided). A printed manual would be much less hassle.

Value for money 80%
Shareware alternatives are no cheaper or better once you've paid the fees.

MACFORMAT RATING 83%



System 7.5's Recent Documents/Applications feature tricked it into reporting orphaned aliases.

are all good to get rid of too, and locating dormant files is especially handy – if you haven't used a file for five years, you probably aren't going to.

Disk cleaning isn't a daily activity; however messy you are, you're unlikely to need to do it more than twice a year. For most Mac owners *Disk Cleaner,* although thorough, is overkill.

If you run an office full of Macs or handle many files and applications as part of your daily routine, *Disk Cleaner* is great for keeping your hard drive free of clutter. Otherwise, you're paying for a package you're unlikely to use very often. **Rod Lawton**

DISK CLEANER

Price: £35.24. **Out:** now.
Requires: Mac SE or better, 500K of RAM, System 7 or later.
Contact: Amtech International on 0117 971 0588.

Features 88%
Searches for every file type imaginable, but you need to be careful with actually interpreting the results.

Ease of use 74%
A simple, quick interface, but it does require a fair knowledge of the Mac's System and file types.

Documentation 60%
Clear and concise, but on disk only. Bad news if you don't have a printer and irritating even when you do.

Value for money 43%
You'll only use it occasionally, and there are freeware alternatives.

MACFORMAT RATING 66%

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HARDWARE FOR SALE

■ **LCII 8/80,** 14-inch colour monitor, mouse, keyboard, CD300 double speed, 44Mb Syquest Drive & four cartridges – £850. Fitz, Herts ☎ 01438 820887

■ **Performa 475** 4/160, 14-inch monitor, keyboard, mouse, 8 mths old, lots of software, manuals, *Software FPU*, new logic board, light use only, exc condition, upgrading. Lesley, Glasgow ☎ 0141 840 1641

■ Need more memory? **Two 1Mb 30-pin SIMMs** for LC/LCII etc – £35 for pair. Mark ☎ 01904 413695 (eve)

■ **Quadra 650** 8/230, CD-ROM, Apple 14-inch monitor & Apple keyboard, game and software – £1,520. Andrew ☎ 01237 473950

■ **Performa 400,** 33MHz maths co, keyboard, monitor, screen filter, Syquest removable hard drive, Apple CD300, 8Mb RAM, *HomePublisher, Aldus Type Twister,* loads of software – £1,500. ☎ 01977 791740

■ **Apple Mac** two 3.5-inch external disk drives – £50; one 40Mb internal hard disk drive – £70; four 256K SIMMs – £20; cables – £10. ☎ 01908 510086

■ **Mac Plus,** keyboard, 20Mb external hard disk – £250; dot matrix printer – £50. ☎ 01908 510086

■ Video card, **E-machine Futura SX** – offers; four 1Mb 30-pin SIMMs – £85; Apple mouse – offers. Mike ☎ 0171 792 3732 (eve)

■ **Personal LaserWriter LS,** complete with cables, manuals & toner cartridge – £400 ono. Lyn ☎ 01753 861848

■ **LCII 4/40,** System 7, colour monitor, keyboard, mouse, StyleWriter b/w, all excellent condition, boxed with manuals – £675. Bournemouth ☎ 01202 840812 (eve)

■ **PowerMac 7100/66** 16/250, Apple keyboard, Sony 1730 17-inch monitor, Syquest 88Mb drive, Epson scanner GT6500, *Photoshop,* Dec 1152 Laser printer – offers. ☎ 01730 892401

■ **Performa 400** 4/40, 14-inch monitor, CD-ROM, StyleWriter, lots of CDs & software for home/business – £740. Sale due to upgrade. ☎ 01482 328603 or 665493

■ **Quadra/Centris 660AV** 8/500 CD-ROM, System 7.5 and all the software you'll ever need, mint condition, home use only – £900. Stephen ☎ 0171 813 0401

■ **Radius Video Vision,** latest PowerMac version, boxed & still under warranty – any reasonable offers considered. ☎ 01926 843777

■ **Centris 650 12/160,** keyboard, mouse, 14-inch monitor, upgraded VRAM Syquest drive, 44Mb disks, exc condition – £1,850 ono. Ripley, Derbs ☎ 01773 510745

■ **Apple monitor,** monochrome 12-inch display, still guaranteed – £60; **fax-modem** 14.4 error correction, data correction, includes cables – £90. ☎ 01223 561580

■ **PowerMac 8100/80** 16/500 HD, CD; Apple extended keyboard, Apple 17-inch monitor, **LaserWriter** Select 360; Apple Care Premium Plan, System 7.5, all items unused & boxed as new. Soruklu ☎ 01375 652482

■ **Apple Power CD** inc all cables & four CDs, immac condition – £100. ☎ 01494 816098

■ **PowerBook 540c** 12/500, modem, two months old, PCMCIA adaptor, carry case, all complete – only £2,500; Newton MP120 2Mb – £325. Simon ☎ 0113 244 6542 (day)

■ **Mac IIvi** 5/80, 14-inch Trinitron display, internal CD300, ext keyboard, mouse, manuals, System disks etc – £475 ono. Ian ☎ 0181 569 6107 (eve)

■ **LCII 10/40,** CPU co-processor installed – £250 ono. ☎ 0181 643 2637

■ New **battery for PowerBook** 100 – £45. Mark ☎ 01903 213906

■ **Performa 630,** brand new, still boxed, Apple Multiscan 15-inch monitor, brand new, cost £1,100 – sell £725. ☎ 01202 625664

■ **Radius PowerView,** add Apple, Radius or PC colour or two-page monitor to PowerBook, Classic etc. Also drives LCD panels, video projectors, unused, boxed – £125. ☎ 0181 853 0014

■ **Mac si** 5/40, 13-inch colour monitor, extended keyboard, mouse, all manuals, System 7.1, home use – £750 ono. ☎ 01788 567334

■ **Performa 450** 4/120, colour monitor, keyboard, printer, CD300 plus extras, less than a yr old – £1,000. ☎ 0181 533 6961

■ **Syquest 44Mb** plus five cartridges, low volume use, mint condition – £190 ono. Howard ☎ 01536 418137

■ **Mac SE** 1/40, keyboard Mk2 & mouse, exc condition – £175 ono; TG100 MIDI module with Mac software – £200. Clwyd ☎ 01352 712937

■ Umax S6 one pass **colour scanner** with ltd edition *Photoshop,* boxed with manuals, exc condition, four mths old – £675 ono. Kate ☎ 01530 817103

■ **Agfa SlideWriter** for imaging 35mm slides from Apple Mac or PC – £500. ☎ 01924 223132

■ Apple 13-inch RGB **monitor,** no cables – £70. ☎ 01270 586869

■ **IIfx SIMMs,** 4x4Mb – £300. Jules, Oxon ☎ 01235 533895

■ Apple basic **colour monitor,** brand new & guaranteed (not Trinitron) – £100. ☎ 0181 566 5673

■ **Performa 400,** System 7.5.1, 8Mb RAM, *RAM Doubler, ClarisWorks 3.0,* Apple Design Powered Speakers II, monitor, keyboard, mouse, all boxes & manuals, exc condition – £750. Central Scotland ☎ 01236 873470

■ Power user **triple-speed CD-ROM drive,** 520Kb per second, tray loading, with three CDs, three mths old – £180 ono. Oxford area ☎ 01865 59188

■ **Performa 400** 6/80, 12-inch colour monitor, external CD-ROM drive, System 7.1, exc condition, home use only, DTP software available – £475. ☎ 0121 471 4812 (leave message)

■ 400dpi Omniscan **hand scanner,** Caere ImageGS, OCR and FAX software, immaculate – £110; boxed *ClarisDraw, HyperCard 2.2* and *Flying Nightmares* –£100. David ☎ 01604 586387

■ Dove **14.4K baud fax-modem** with

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USER GROUPS

Need hands-on help with a Mac problem? Want to swap shareware or freeware, or just meet other Mac enthusiasts? Try a user group near you...

■ Nottingham Computer Club. Please send an SAE to Sherwood Community Centre, Mansfield Road, Nottingham. (MF30)

■ Performance user group/newsletter for home users. Non-commercial. Send large SAE for details. Ref MF, 36 Oakfield Close, Laurel Fields, Potters Bar EN6 2BE. (MF30)

■ Jerusalem, Israel. ☎ Azzedine Downs 972 02 277 376 e-mail: **62876587@e/n.attmail.com.** We are just starting. (MF30)

■ Mac Attack user group, regular newsletter, special reductions, send SAE to 17 Lissadell Drive, Magherafelt, Co Londonderry, BT45 5AR or contact David Gillespie (Director) ☎ 01648 33893. (MF32)

■ Keynet BBS now on-line ☎ 0181 954 0847. For musicians, music, MIDI, *Finale*, *Cubase* etc. Mac, PC, Atari. Two high speed lines, 24 hours. (MF32)

■ The Computer Textile Design Group. The essential link between computer and textile designers. Contact Dee Chester, 12 Le Brun Road, Eastbourne, BN21 2HZ. (MF32)

■ NW Macintosh and Apple user group. Cheshire area. Contact Sean McCleery ☎ 01270 624271. (MF33)

■ New Oxford user group. We're looking for members, help and shareware. Send an SAE to 30 Sandfield Road, Headington, Oxford OX3 7RJ. Monthly magazine! (MF33)

■ Pentrisoft – the programmers' user group. Distribution, tips and advice. Write to Stéphane Gray, 'Oaklands', Rock Lane, Hastings, East Sussex, TN35 4NY for details. (MF33)

■ Appel Club Eindhoven, The Netherlands. Contact Arie Nagel ☎ +3140 523879, or e-mail: **a.p.nagel@bdk.tue.nl** (MF33)

■ The Mac Netsurfer Group – a net discussion group for Mac users. Fax me (Josh) on ☎ 0171 328 5888 or e-mail: **Maniac@badapple.demon.co.uk** (MF33)

■ ClubMac Cork, for all Mac enthusiasts outside of Dublin. Monthly meetings, own Bulletin Board, newsletter etc. Online to Internet at meetings. New members welcome. For details telephone or fax Dominic Murnane ☎ 026 41167 or e-mail **dominicm@eirenet.net** (MF33)

■ Peter and Paul's Practical Page! The ultimate net hot spot for kids by kids! The e-mail address is: **http://inchnd.stir.ac.uk/relstd/kww1/paul/Peter&Paul.html** (MF33)

■ MACBEL User Group VZW – Belgium's only non-profit Mac User Group. Bi-monthly magazines, Internet discounts, local BBS support (Telefinders 32-3-4543069) & meetings. Contact Bart ☎ 32 3 6404031 or e-mail: **info@macbel.be** (MF34)

■ Mac Jungle BBS on 01235 520507 – Telefinder host – 28.8K V.34 modems – over 1Gig of Mac shareware on-line! Now supporting TLAN conferences daily! (MF34)

■ Midapple, the Apple computer users' group in the West Midlands. Monthly meetings, newsletter. Send SAE for details to Midapple, 24 High Street, Wall Heath, Kingswinford, West Midlands, DY6 0HB. (MF36)

■ Brighton Hanover Computer Club for Mac, IBM and Amiga users. Meet fourth Tuesday every month, at the Hanover Centre, 33 Southover Street, 8pm. For details contact Colin ☎ 01273 602834. (MF36)

Groups are listed here for six issues, then deleted in order to help weed out defunct groups. The code at the end of each entry is the last issue in which it will appear. If you want your entry renewed, send in the coupon on page 138. If your group isn't listed here, then send us your details!

Please note: this list is provided as a free service for amateur, non-profit-making Mac user groups. MACFORMAT does not endorse or recommend any group and cannot be held responsible for any problems you might suffer as a result of contacting groups advertised here.

Fax STF software, inc all leads, connect to the Internet, £230 new – accept £110 ono. ☎ 01494 816098

■ 200Mb **Syquest cartridges,** hardly used – three for £90 ono. ☎ 0117 979 9481

■ **Mac IIci** 5/270, 14-inch colour monitor, extended keyboard, mouse, StyleWriter II printer, CD300e cache card, exc condition – £1,750, open to offers. Peterborough ☎ 01733 321385

■ 2x1Mb 80ns **30-pin SIMMs** – £20 ea. ☎ 01242 571447 (eve)

■ Apple Audiovision 14-inch **colour monitor** (with speakers built in), with adaptor kit for any Mac – £320; LaserWriter 300 – £475, boxed as new, warranty. ☎ 0191 273 6687

■ **Apple CD300+** external, as new – £100 ono. ☎ 0181 265 4082

■ **PowerBook 145B** 4/40, System 7.1, exc condition, inc carrying case, *ClarisWorks 2.0*, sale due to upgrade – £600 ono. Raymond ☎ 0181 459 0515

■ **Centris 610** 12/80, CD, keyboard, mouse, 15-inch NEC monitor, 14.4K modem, StyleWriter II, 2yrs old, upgrading – £1,400 ono. Reading ☎ 01734 788178 (eve)

■ **LC475** 8/160, *Clarisworks*, keyboard, mouse, loads of free/shareware, *Word 5.1*, *Marathon*, 14-inch colour monitor, all manuals, boxed – £775. Jase ☎ 0161 431 3716 or 0161 881 8825

■ **Classic II** 4/40, System 7.1, manuals, keyboard, microphone, exc condition – £500 ono. S Wales ☎ 01633 222287

■ **Mac Plus** 1/20, good condition, keyboard, mouse, System 6 with manuals & software – £200. David ☎ 01932 562936

■ **Mac LC,** 40Mb HD, 10Mb RAM, maths co-processor, max VRAM, colour monitor, keyboard, mouse, manuals, light home use – £350. Milton Keynes ☎ 01908 605582 (eve)

■ **Epson GT6500,** full *Photoshop 2.5*, home use only, boxed, complete – £400 ono; *Underware* – £10; *Write Now 3* – £10; Apple font pack – £20. ☎ 0181 998 8332 (eve)

■ **LCII 8/80,** keyboard, mouse, Apple 12-inch colour monitor, System 7.5.1, Microsoft *Works 2.0*, all perfect working order – £500 ono. Edinburgh ☎ 0131 220 0730 (office hrs)

■ **ImageWriter II** with network card, cable, manual, box, stand, spare ribbons and continuous paper, used daily, as new – £100. ☎ 01684 850809

■ **LCII 6/80,** 14-inch Performa Plus monitor, excellent condition, boxed with manuals & many extras – £600. Beds ☎ 01582 570167

■ **Mac LC** 10/40, 14-inch colour Trinitron monitor, DayStar 33MHz accelerator, FPU, keyboard, mouse, dust covers, boxed, manuals, perfect – £550 ono. Bromley ☎ 0181 460 8303

SOFTWARE FOR SALE

■ *ClarisWorks 3/Organizer* – £50 together; *Syndicate*, *Populous*, *Sim Classics*, *Monkey Island 2* – £15 ea; *Railroad Tycoon*, *Infocom Treasures 1*, *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade* – £10 ea. Glasgow ☎ 01505 336738

■ *QuarkXPress* for PowerMac 3.3, CD-ROM, desktop publishing program, one of the best, brand new – £300. ☎ 0181 641 6998

■ Demo version of *SoftWindows* (Windows emulator) £7.50; **C64 emulator** for the Mac £4; four **Spectrum emulators** for the Mac on one disk £4; PC **MS-DOS emulator** for the Mac £4. Matthew ☎ 0181 524 4326 (eve) or 0973 301882 (mobile)

■ Aldus *Persuasion 2.1* and Microsoft *Word 5.1*, boxed with original disks and manuals, can be upgraded – £60. ☎ 0181 472 0274

■ *Journeyman Project* – £15; *Sherlock Holmes Consulting Detective vols 1&2* – £15 ea; *Red Baron* – £10; *Star Trek 25th Anniversary* – £15. Swaps considered. Rob ☎ 01273 820571

■ **System 7.5** on CD-ROM, unwanted & unused, with manuals – £30. Gareth ☎ 0181 441 2780

■ *Word*, old version – saves you £150 to £200 when upgrading to *Word* or *Office*. ☎ 01962 854950

■ *FileMaker Pro 2.0* – £50; *FileMaker Pro 1.0* – £35 ono; MS *Word 4.0* – £45 ono; *MacDraw Pro 1.5* – £45; all in original condition, unopened. *MacDraw 2* – £20; *StuffIt Deluxe 3.0* – £30 ono. *Symantec Anti Virus for Mac 3.0* – £20; *Disclock 2.1*, brand new – £20 ☎ 01628 778156

■ *Photoshop LE 2.5*, unopened, with tutorial & guide – £80 ono. Stephen ☎ 01554 758268

■ *Photoshop 2.5*, brand new & shrink-wrapped – £150 ono. ☎ 01260 277652

■ *Myst* CD-ROM – £20; *Links Pro* – £15; *Fate of Atlantis* CD-ROM – £15; *4D First* Database – £50. Newmarket ☎ 01638 660106

■ *Visions* astrology software, complete, boxed – £20; *Astrology Source* CD, complete, boxed – £25. Inc p&p. Sandy, Shropshire ☎ 01952 727228

■ *Claris Organizer* UK, unopened – £40; *Myst* – £20; *Turbo CAD* – £50; *Cubase* starter pack – £80. Arnim ☎ 01484 866091

■ *ClarisWorks 2.0*, exc condition, still shrink wrapped, only two wks old – £80 inc p&p. Marc ☎ 01222 865184

■ *Myst* – £30 or swap for *7th Guest*, difference paid if necessary. Matthew ☎ 01624 833133

■ *Iron Helix* – £15; *Animals* – £7; *Atlas Pack* – £7; *Journeyman Project* – £15. All as new, swaps and offers considered. Adam ☎ 0113 275 9715

WANTED

■ **LC475 or faster** computer wanted for DTP and graphics, good working condition; ImageWriter II, StyleWriter or LaserWriter; CD300 & US Robotics Mac & fax wanted. ☎ 0181 472 5258

■ 4Mb or 8Mb **72-pin SIMMs** memory to upgrade LC475; StyleWriter II or colour StyleWriter; 14-inch monitor; keyboard & mouse, must all be good working condition. ☎ 0181 472 0274

■ Software, shareware, books on programming **language C & C++.** Louis ☎ 0181 767 7991

■ **Manual** for HP PaintWriter. Paul ☎ 01604 402891

■ Urgently needed for handicapped daughter, **cheap/free printer** (to hard copy screen images being used). Brian, Newport ☎ 01633 290407

■ Duo SCSI **floppy drive** & standard Mac **keyboard** plus cable, duo 4Mb RAM, **Zip/3.5-inch** optical drive. ☎ 0181 692 8129

■ **Animation modelling software,** *Strata StudioPro*, *form•Z*, *Touch-3D* etc, original disks & manuals only. ☎ 0151 637 1863

■ **Dr T's M for Mac,** full price paid. Nick ☎ 0171 267 8658

■ **Manuals for IIe.** ☎ 01624 813640

SWAP SHOP

■ **CD-ROMs** for swap: *Alice – an Interactive Museum*, *Info-Mac 3* and *7th Guest*. Anything considered. Andy ☎ 0151 428 4930

■ I have *Myst* and will swap it for *7th Guest*. Matthew ☎ 01624 833133

■ Swap *Leisure Suit Larry 5* for *SimCity* or *Monkey Island 1* or *2*, *Dark Seed*. ☎ 01204 694824

■ *Theme Park* for sale, exc condition, will swap for *Monkey Island 1* or *2* or *Marathon* etc. Alan ☎ 01727 830631

■ *PageMaker 4.0* with manuals, boxed – £175 and Aldus *Personal Press 1.0* with manuals & box – £75; or swap for *Home Publisher*, *KPT Bryce*, *Vistapro*. ☎ 0121 428 2006

■ Swap *Monkey Island* for *PGA Golf 2* or *7th Guest;* swap *Underware* for *Far Side Screen Saver*. Graham ☎ 01733 897258

■ Swap *Out of the Sun* for *Prince of Persia 1*. Rob ☎ 01892 783173

MISCELLANEOUS

■ **Shareware/PD contacts** wanted to swap software. Send disks to Richard, 15 Hughenden Court, Mount Pleasant Road, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 3ST, all replies answered.

■ **Hungry for knowledge** design grad will work free in exchange for some good Mac training. ☎ 0181 570 8683

■ *SimCity 200 Scenarios* **fanzine,** monthly update & mag, £1 per month. Contact Stuart's Scenarios, 3 Mayburn Bank, Loanhead, Midlothian, Scotland, EH20 9EZ or ☎ 0131 440 1083

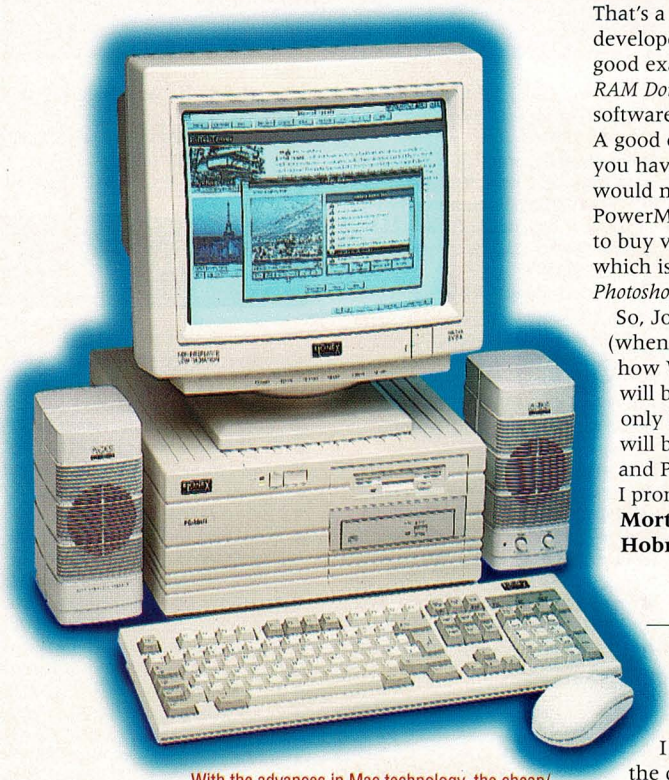
■ *Performa Power* **fanzine** for Performa 630 owners. Issue 1 send £2 in coins to Ryan O'Neill, 103 Mayogall Rd, Knockloughrim, Mogherafelt, Co Derry, N Ireland, BT45 8PJ

The March to PC?

In MACFORMAT 26, reader John March said that seeing the cost of upgrading to PowerMac, he was tempted to get a PC instead. Did anyone leap to defend the Mac?

Well, well, well, so John March (MACFORMAT 26) wants to buy a PC because it's cheaper and all his software is available for PC now?

Well, let's first take a look at the hardware. Let's say John would buy a Performa 5200 8/500, which would set him back about £1,500. An equal PC would be a 90MHz Pentium 8/500 with 15-inch screen, stereo speakers, quad-speed CD-drive, soundcard and microphone. That would also cost around £1,500, but it would definitely not be an IBM, Olivetti or Compaq. By that I mean it would not be the same quality as an Apple computer. It would probably be a Newtec or some other Japanese clone.



With the advances in Mac technology, the cheap/free software upgrades available and the quality of the hardware, you'd be mad to switch to a PC.

If you also want the opportunity of watching TV on the screen, it would have to be a Compaq Presario or the like. And with a Pentium processor it's much more expensive than a Performa 5200 with TV card. It might be more expensive upgrading a Mac, but think of it this way: by the time the P6 (Intel's forthcoming processor) gets out to the dealers, Macs will already have the PowerPC 620 processor, which is much faster than the P6. So you will be in front of the PC users, though it would cost you a bit. (How much? Well, Apple hasn't yet announced the prices for the 604 and 620, nor for the upgrade cards.)

Then the software. John March says that he will have to buy new software. That's a lie, he won't. Many software developers offers free upgrades. A good example of this is Connectix *RAM Doubler*. For almost all other Mac software, there are upgrades available. A good example here is *Photoshop*. If you have, let's say, version 2.5, you would need version 3.0, which is PowerMac native. But you don't have to buy version 3.0 – you can upgrade, which is much cheaper than buying *Photoshop* for PC.

So, John, sometime in the future (when you still are trying to find out how Windows 95 works), when I will be flying around in 3D-worlds only limited by my fantasy (which will be possible with *KPT Super Bryce* and PowerPC 620), I'll think of you. I promise.

Morten Borg, age 16
Hobro, Denmark

Incompatible?

From David Angwin, European Marketing Manager, Insignia Solutions plc

I would like to contribute to the debate about PC compatibility.

By suggesting that it would be better to buy a PC than choosing either an upgrade or compatibility solution for the Macintosh, John March appears to have based his decision more on cost rather than considering whether or not the best tool is being used for his particular computing requirements – which is what PC compatibility is all about.

If users wish to run PC software continually then yes, they should go ahead and buy a PC. The benefits of compatibility solutions such as *SoftWindows* are intended for users who still require the superior capabilities of the Macintosh, but who wish to have regular access to the world of PC software as well.

Therefore, rather than focusing purely on the performance of *SoftWindows*, attention should be paid to the true value of the product, which lies in allowing Macintosh users to experience the best of both worlds – the integration of the powerful Macintosh environment with the most popular and widely used PC applications. The benefits of having access to both environments side by side on one machine outweigh any of the criticisms.

Finally, *SoftWindows* will shortly run in 386 enhanced mode via the release of the new version of the program, *SoftWindows 2.0*.

Throwing in the towel

John March writes about throwing in the towel and going for a PC because of the price of updating Mac hardware. True, you might be able to get a full Pentium setup for the price of a logic board upgrade for your old Mac, but, as MACFORMAT's article on upgrades in issue 25 pointed out, it often costs the same to go the whole hog and buy a new PowerMac. And I know which setup I'd rather have.

And why would anyone want to run *SoftWindows* on a Mac anyhow? If you want Windows, buy a PC and run it side by side with your Mac. Aside from anything else, you'll soon tire of the flickery 14-inch monitor with the spherical screen that comes as standard, as opposed to the sharp, flat 15-inch multi-scan supplied in most Mac bundles. As for RAM, at least all newer model Macs come with 8Mb as standard. Most PC bundles, Pentium or otherwise, give you only 4Mb to play with.

So stick with the Macintosh, John, because the technology is evolving faster, prices are falling, and now we've got *Doom*.

Philip Gooch
via FutureNet

Mad March nutter

This John March must be some kind of nutter. PCs are cheap because it costs extra to add all the capabilities that Macs have built-in as standard, like sound and networking, to name but two. A similarly specified system will cost just about the same as a Mac, if not more once you add on the RAM upgrade you'll need as well – there's no way that Windows and a high-end application like *Photoshop* will run in any less than they do on a Mac. And if he thinks running the PC versions of his favourite Mac programs is going to be the same, he's obviously never tried it. A PC running *PageMaker* is still a complete bastard, and even Windows 95 doesn't come close to the Mac OS for practical usefulness.

Peter Graham
Tetbury, Wilts MF

YOUR CALL

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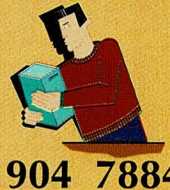

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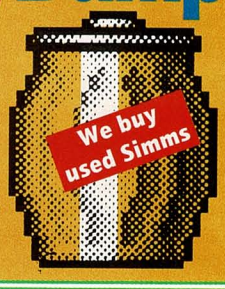

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Buying advice

Whether you're buying by mail or in person, here are a few basic, sensible precautions to bear in mind. Note that everything here applies to buying from a business; most of it does *not* apply to buying from a private seller in MACFORMAT's reader ads pages.

Always be absolutely clear about what is included in the price – postage and packing? Any necessary cables, etc? VAT? By law, an advert must say *explicitly* if VAT is not included; if it doesn't, VAT *is* included. But this could be in the small print – so make sure you read it all! If you're buying in person, check that everything is there and that it all works properly before you leave the shop. If you're buying by mail, ring the supplier first to confirm the price and availability, and ask what your options will be if there should be any problem. Find out when you can realistically expect delivery. Always keep all the receipts and make records of all correspondence, whether it's by mail or by phone.

How to protect yourself

If you are buying goods of more than £100 in total value, always use a credit card if possible. That way, in the unlikely event of anything going wrong, you'll be legally entitled to claim against the credit card company as well as the seller, even if the seller has gone bust. You might also get extra insurance – check with your credit card company.

If you don't have a credit card, always pay by cheque or postal order (ask at your local post office). Never send cash through the mail – it is impossible to trace if it gets lost, you can't stop payment if you need to, and even if you have proof of posting it is impossible to prove how much you sent.

Keep records. If you're paying by credit card, keep a note of the exact time of the order and ask for an order number. If you're paying by cheque, make sure you fill in the details of the date, amount and payee's exact name in the stub – and keep it!

When a mail order arrives

Check everything carefully. If anything is missing, contact the supplier immediately. If something doesn't work, make all the obvious checks (the fuse, etc), but don't try to repair it. If there's anything you're not happy with, don't use it – if you do, you could be deemed to have accepted it.

If there's a problem

Whether you bought it by mail or in a shop, the law says a product must be:

1. 'of merchantable quality' (that is, broadly speaking, it must actually work);
2. 'as described' (in the advert or in person – and this one criterion also applies when you're buying from a private seller, not a business); and
3. fit for the purpose for which it was sold or for the purpose you specified when you ordered it.

If it fails to meet any or all of these three criteria, then you are entitled to return the goods for a refund, receive compensation for all or part of the value, or get a replacement or free repair, depending on the seriousness of the defect. These are the 'statutory rights' that adverts always say are 'not affected' by any extra guarantees. The supplier cannot change or deny these rights.

How to complain

If you're not happy about something, always contact the supplier first and politely explain your problem. Most problems are sorted out at this stage with no fuss. But if yours isn't, put your complaint in writing, clearly stating your problem and including any relevant dates, etc, and send it to the manager or owner – ask for the correct name and job title. Give the supplier a reasonable time to reply – say, ten days or so.

If the problem is still not resolved, you may need to take some sort of legal action to enforce your rights. This need not cost you a lot of money. You should seek advice from a solicitor (ask about the free advice scheme) or from one of the following organisations (check in your local telephone directory):

- Citizen's Advice Bureau;
- Trading Standards Office (listed under your local council);
- Office of Fair Trading; or
- County Court (ask someone there about the 'small claims procedure').

The Classic System Crew

By Bob Lynch

CD-ROM magazines, on-line magazines, cyberspace magazines, who needs paper magazines?
All I need to access this world of data is my trusty Mac. No tree will ever have to die for paper!
But there is one small drawback. How can I read my computer while sitting on the bog?
Did you hear that? Our owner now wants to operate this computer while sitting on his toilet!
MEANWHILE, IN THE SYSTEM FOLDER
HOW TO BE CHIEF!
He's never wanted to do that before, is it one of the new features of System Eight?
HI MUM
Well we have to come up with a way of making this Mac mobile or it's curtains for us lot!
Curtains? Does that mean Windows 95?
Well I say 'If Mohammed won't come to the mountain, then the mountain will have to come to Mohammed'.
HI DAD
Now where did this lot all come From?
NOW WASH YOUR HANDS

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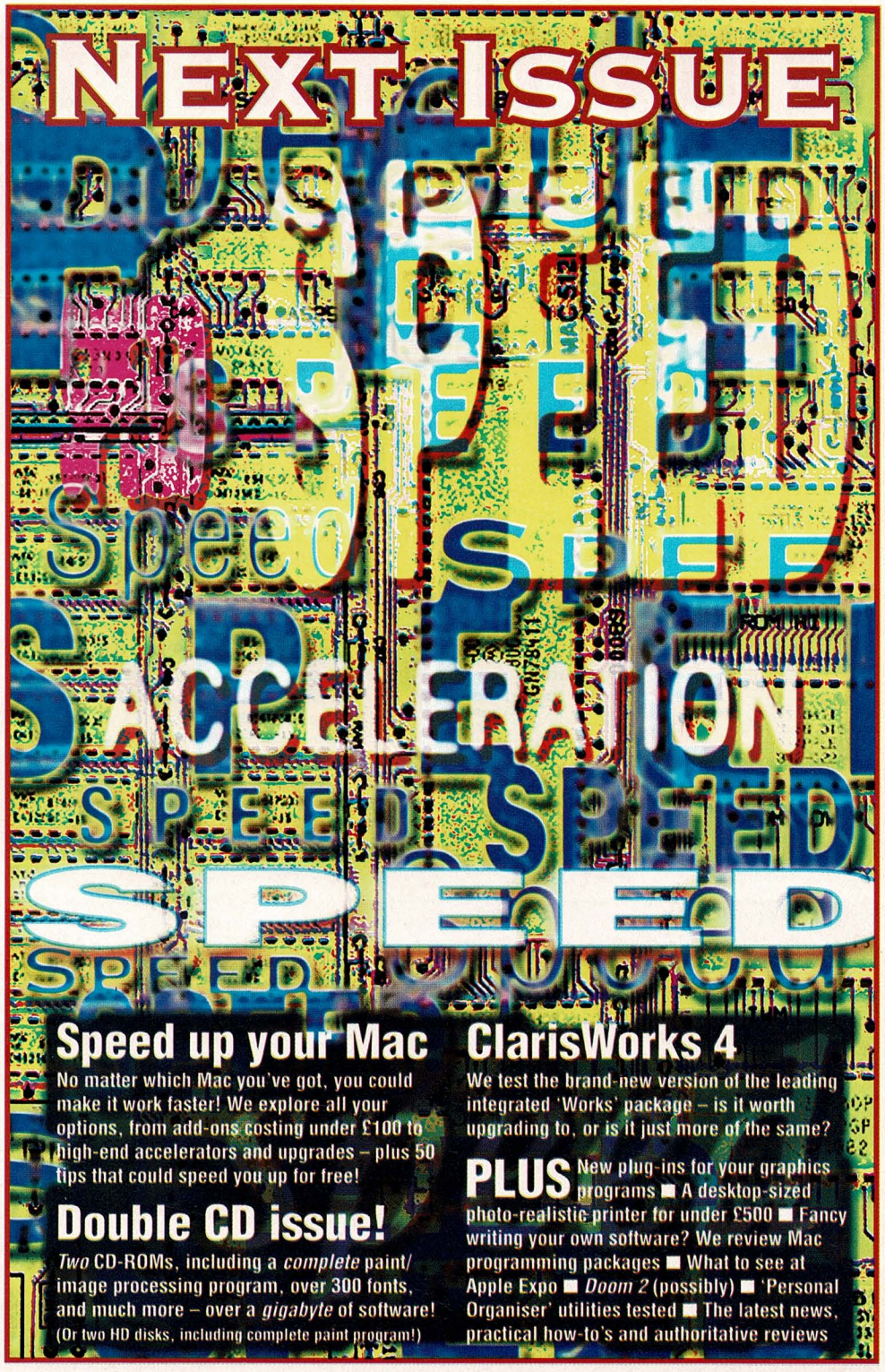
47,122!

A small window on the world – the Tiny Zone

Hello and welcome again to Tiny Zone, the section of MACFORMAT that specialises in small talk. So, Windows 95, eh? If you believe the hype, it's one of the most significant technological advances of the century, etc etc. If not, it looks more like just another PC operating system really... But Micro$oft certainly spared no expense on the publicity, including giving away the entire print run of *The Times* on launch day, Thursday 24 August. If you managed to get a copy you found a promotional supplement inside (as if a whole newspaper free wasn't promotion enough), singing the praises of Windows. Well, not quite... Just about every article undermined its own hype by invoking – yep – the Mac as the benchmark. Just three examples. In the introduction: 'The Seattle-based company created Windows to put a graphical face on the text-driven operating system, DOS, that left industry standard PCs far harder to use than the Apple Macintosh.' On networking: '...setting up a network has traditionally been beyond most PC users. Apple realised this years ago, and basic networking features have long been built into its Macintosh operating system.' On Windows' usability: 'The Windows 95 interface is not the final word in computer interaction. It's not even that revolutionary. It has been called "Macintosh 89", and with good cause, because it borrows heavily from that fine design.' Other papers were even less inclined to flatter Micro$oft, with the *Independent*'s report subtitled 'Computer experts unimpressed by hype'. If they read between the lines, punters won't be fooled either. So, what's the most outrageous Windows 95 hype you've seen? And the best bit of Mac-upmanship? Let's expose the news behind the noise!

NEXT ISSUE



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PLUS New plug-ins for your graphics programs ■ A desktop-sized photo-realistic printer for under £500 ■ Fancy writing your own software? We review Mac programming packages ■ What to see at Apple Expo ■ *Doom 2* (possibly) ■ 'Personal Organiser' utilities tested ■ The latest news, practical how-to's and authoritative reviews

ARE YOU A WINNER?

Back in MACFORMAT 26, to accompany our feature on Macs in animation, we gave you the chance to win one of ten *Wallace and Gromit* videos, courtesy of BBC Video. The ten winners are: Jayne Ford of Andover, Hants; Michael Wilde of Nuneaton, Warwicks; T Baxter from Kirkwall, Orkney; DK Bracken of London N16; and Chris Hill of somewhere called Rowlands Gill (each of whom gets a copy of the award-winning original Wallace and Gromit adventure, *A Grand Day Out*); and M Davies of Northampton; G Tugwell-Smith from Newport, Gwent; Asha Parajia of London SW19; Iain Andrews from Glasgow, and Matti Lindqvist from Vaajakoski, I think it is, in Finland (all of whom win *The Wrong Trousers*). Congratulations to all ten!

Also in issue 26, we had a lovely Samsung 17GL monitor up for grabs, but, oh dear, we seem to be out of roo

MACFORMAT 31 goes on sale on Thursday 26 October

Available with two high density floppy disks or two CD-ROMs! Ask your newsagent to save you a copy or see the insert in this issue for our special subscription offers

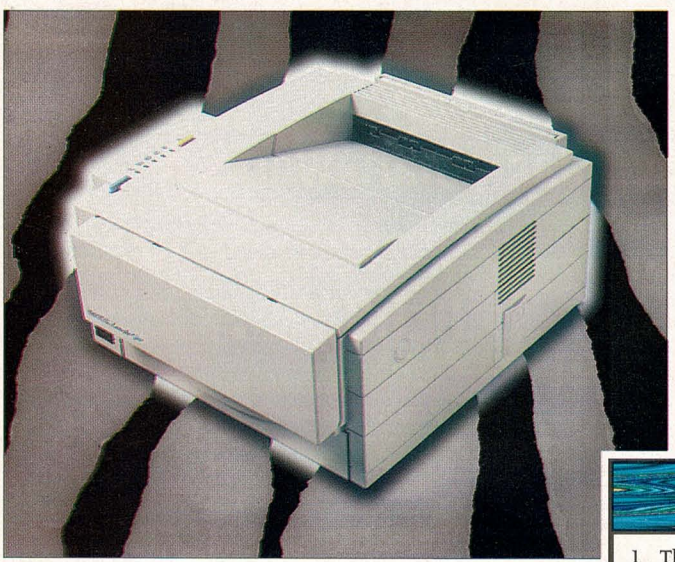
Win a Hewlett-Packard LaserJet 5MP printer

Among mono laser printers, we rate Hewlett-Packard's 5MP top of the heap. Here's your chance to win your own, worth £1,174, courtesy of Hewlett-Packard.

In our round-up of mono laser printers last issue, we concluded that 'for output quality combined with value, the Hewlett-Packard 5MP wins by a mile'. It's a 600dpi A4 printer, perfect for everything from general correspondence to proofing your DTP work and even outputting camera-ready pages for your instant-print shop or bureau to reproduce.

The LaserJet 5MP boasts full PostScript support, so you can generate excellent output from professional DTP and art packages. It claims a relatively modest print speed of six pages per minute, but in our tests it turned out a test *QuarkXPress* page faster than any of the non-Apple 600dpi and 300dpi printers we looked at, and with the best output quality, bar none. Hairline rules were crisper, graphics clearer and graduated grey tones positively breathtaking.

How does it do that? One advantage it has up its sleeve is Hewlett-Packard's proprietary resolution enhancement system, widely regarded as the best in the industry, which gives you even finer detail than the nominal dots per inch figure would suggest. What's more, the 5MP also boasts advanced font management software, flexible paper handling capabilities and even built-in infra-red connectivity – which is a first in the market.



If you have a computer with IrDA (Infra-red Data Association) compliant technology – like the new PowerBook range, or Apple's current Newton MessagePads – this infra-red facility makes wireless, 'point-and-shoot' printing a reality – and as simple as using a TV remote control. No need for cables all around the room!

If you have a more conventional setup, of course, the 5MP is fully networkable (there's an EtherNet port option available as well), or you can connect it straight up to your Mac's printer port as normal.

The 5MP comes with a respectable 3Mb of RAM as standard, expandable up to 35Mb, and has 45 fonts built-in. Using these means your Mac doesn't have to download fonts to the printer at printout time – resulting in more room in the printer's RAM to spool your document (store it temporarily as it is being printed), as well as faster printouts overall.

The Hewlett-Packard LaserJet 5MP is worth around £1,170, but you could win one right here, courtesy of those nice people at Hewlett-Packard. All you have to do is answer the three simple questions below and send us your entry on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope. The closing date is Friday 10 November 1995.

The Rules

Employees of Hewlett-Packard, Future Publishing Ltd or associated companies, and their families, are not eligible to enter. Multiple entries are not allowed, unless accompanied by an infra-red TV remote control unit. The editor's decision is final, there is no cash alternative, and no correspondence will be entered into. Please state if you don't want your name added to a mailing list. **MF**

The Questions

1 The Hewlett-Packard LaserJet 5MP is a 600dpi laser printer. What does 'dpi' stand for?
(a) draft print inking
(b) dots per inch
(c) dynamic personal interface

2 Which of these are *not* features of the Hewlett-Packard 5MP?
(a) Font management software and flexible paper handling
(b) Hewlett-Packard's proprietary resolution-enhancement system and infra-red connectability
(c) A built-in database of the home phone numbers of five MPs

3 The Hewlett-Packard 5MP comes with 3Mb of RAM, expandable to 35Mb. What does it use RAM for?
(a) Spooling your document plus any downloaded fonts at printout time
(b) Backing up your Mac's own RAM so you can run *QuarkXPress*, *Photoshop* and Windows 95 all at once
(c) Acting as a TV remote control

Easy, right? Send your answers on a postcard or sealed envelope (remembering your name and address!) to: 'The not-really-that-saucy-at-all HP Compo', MACFORMAT, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW.

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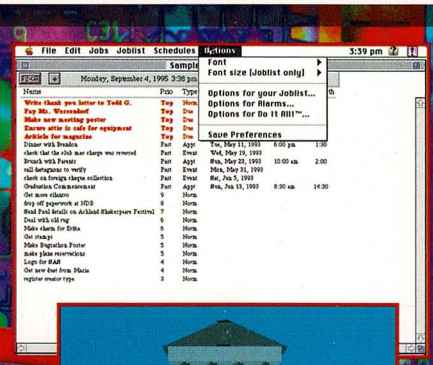
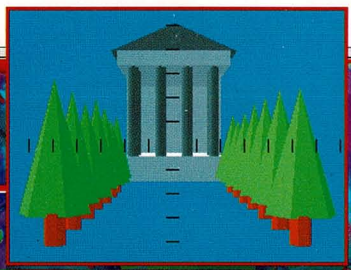
3.2MB OF UTILITIES, GAMES AND APPLICATIONS!

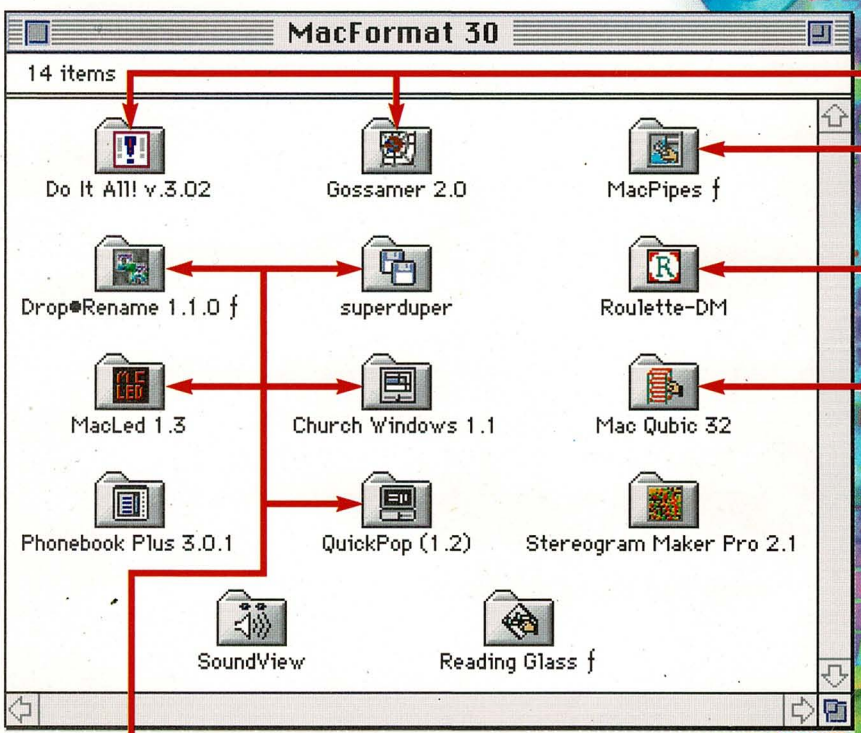
MACFORMAT

ON THE DISK THIS MONTH...

There's something for everyone on this month's Cover Disk. We offer you software for organising your life, utilities to make your life easier and, of course, games that will make you wish you could have just one more life!

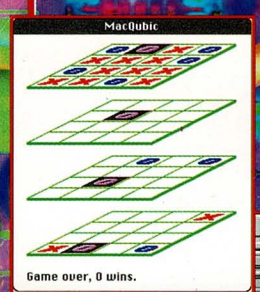


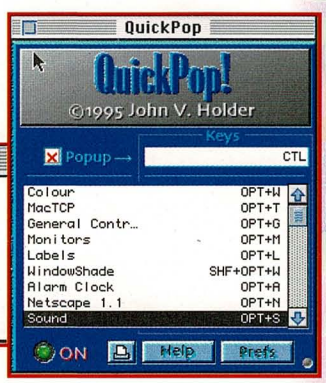


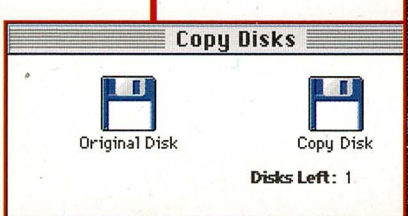


APPLICATIONS

If you're determined to get your life organised, *Do It All!* is the program for you. It's a job prioritiser, to-do list, appointment manager and alarm clock. Also to help you get your life in order we bring you *Phonebook Plus*, a handy program for storing those important phone numbers. Then, for something completely different, try *Gossamer*, which gives you a window on a variety of virtual worlds. You can even create your own worlds using the sample objects included.

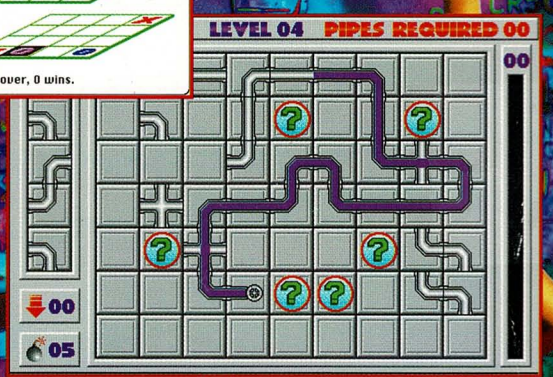






UTILITIES

Quickpop does two jobs. It enables you to assign hotkeys (up to 30), with which you can launch almost any software, and it creates pop-up menus, which appear anywhere on the screen. *SuperDuper*, meanwhile, is an extremely handy utility for copying floppies. *Drop•Rename* is a file and folder renaming utility, which takes the pain out of batch renaming, and *Reading Glass* is a simple program that enlarges the text on your Mac's menus – gone are the days when you have to squint at your monitor to see what's going on.



GAMES

MacPipe is a Mac version of the classic *Pipemania* – your job is to build a pipeline using the pieces of tubing made available one by one. Time is limited – you must make sure you have a continuous length of tubing to carry the liquid which will flow when the clock runs out. *Roulette* is a simulation of the age old gambling game, and *MacQubic* is an addictive 3D version of noughts and crosses.